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## University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

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Profile

Campus News, Newsletters, and Events

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Fall 2008

### Profile: The Annual Honor Roll of Donors

University Relations

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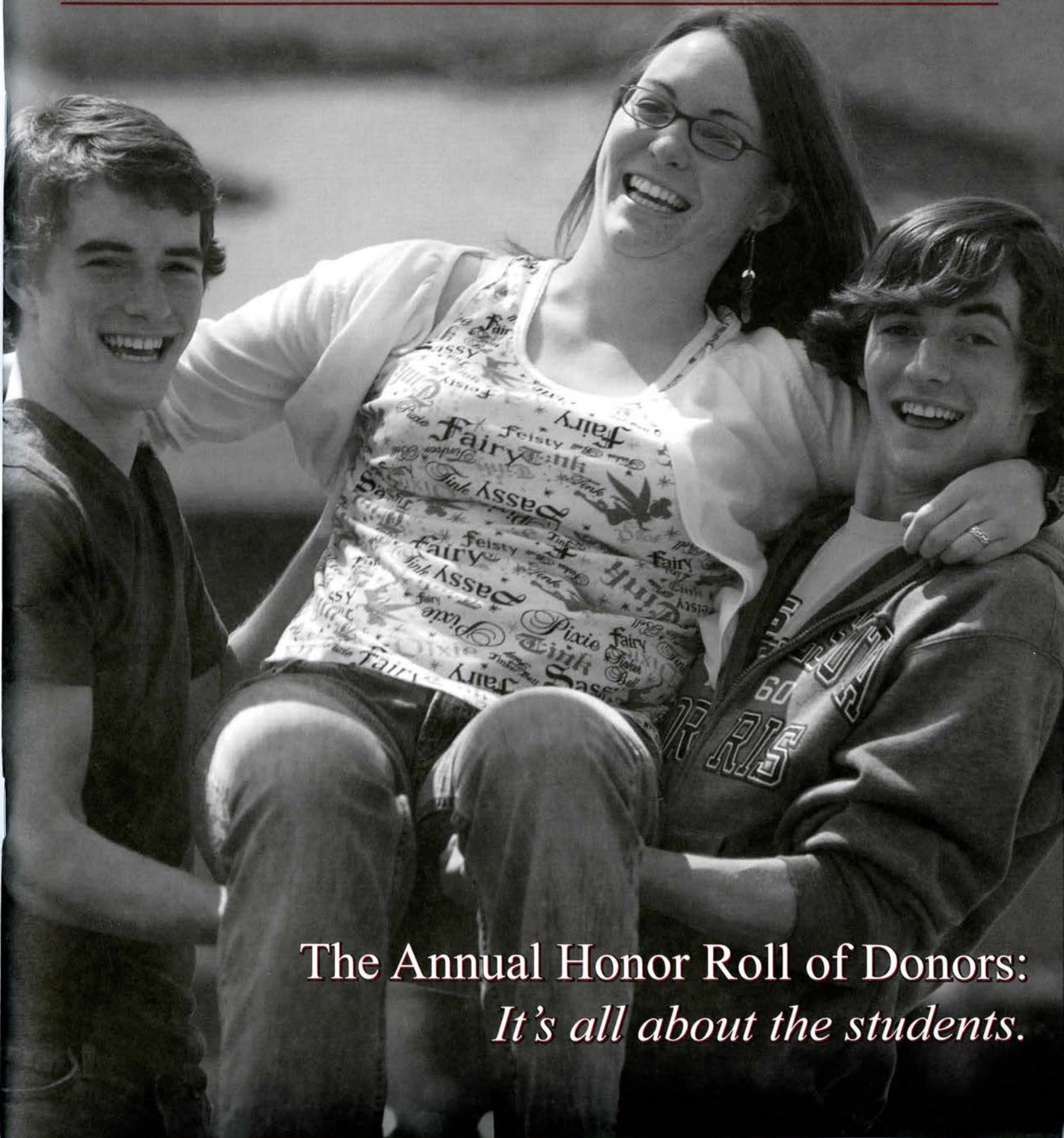
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# Profile

For Alumni, Parents, and Friends of the University of Minnesota, Morris

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA MORRIS

Volume XIII, Edition 1, Fall 2008



The Annual Honor Roll of Donors:  
*It's all about the students.*





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## **UMM Mission Statement**

The mission of UMM as an undergraduate, residential, liberal arts college is distinctive within the University of Minnesota. The Morris campus shares the University's statewide mission of teaching, research, and outreach, yet it is a small college where students can shape their own education. The campus serves undergraduate students primarily from Minnesota and its neighboring states, and it is an educational resource and cultural center for citizens of west central Minnesota. Through its instructional excellence, its commitment to research, its numerous extracurricular programs and services, and its strong sense of community, UMM endeavors to achieve its place among the best liberal arts colleges in the nation.

Cover photograph from left: UMM students Mark Privratsky '11, Samantha Privratsky '09, and Matt Privratsky '11, siblings from Walker

Inside back cover: Homecoming 2008 Scrapbook



## **An investment in students; an investment in the future —a message from Chancellor Jacqueline Johnson**

I write these words at the end of a long presidential campaign and in the midst of what are the most unsettling economic times I can remember. And yet, the Morris campus is filled with the hopeful idealism of the young people who live and learn here, who approach their studies and their politics with an equal measure of passion and commitment. In troubled times, there really is no better place to be than on a college campus in which ideas and action converge and in which discussion and debate are the order of the day. There is no better investment in the future than that which we make in education.

Nearly 100 percent of the students on this campus receive some form of financial aid. Nearly 40 percent of UMM students are the first generation in their families to attend college or university. More than 19 percent of UMM students are students of color. We serve the students of families of this region, students from across the State of Minnesota, from throughout the United States, and from the many corners of the globe.

Morris students have an opportunity to live and learn in a community in which curriculum, co-curriculum, and facilities converge to produce a living and learning environment that is unparalleled. They have an opportunity to work side by side with faculty members to engage in asking and answering the big questions of our time. Our investments in renewable energy and our interest in creating a model sustainable community for the future further distinguish us among our peers.

The kind of education we provide here is made possible in part by the financial support of the people of the State of Minnesota. Equally important is the investment made by people like you who know and love this institution—Morris alumni and friends who understand the value-added components of what we do here. This is an education that focuses on undergraduates, that transpires in a residential learning environment, and that is committed to the tenets of liberal learning—study in breadth; study in depth; and the development of skills and dispositions needed to solve current and future social and economic problems. The kind of education pursued here is essential for the creation of a viable future. This is an education that matters.

The contributions showcased in this edition of *Profile* allow us to continue to provide an outstanding learning environment for our students, regardless of their financial circumstances and regardless of their social situations. Thanks to the friends and alumni of UMM for their continued commitment to this place and for their faith in the work we do.





## Giving to UMM

In partnership with the University of Minnesota Foundation, 100 percent of all gifts designated to UMM are received by and invested in UMM. The Foundation serves as the legal, charitable entity for the University system.

UMM welcomes all forms of financial gifts in any amount in support of UMM's mission and in pursuit of strategic goals. There are many ways to give, and we are happy to assist you in determining the best way based on your individual situation. Read "Ways to Give" at [morris.umn.edu/alumni/funddevelopment](http://morris.umn.edu/alumni/funddevelopment), then contact a development team member for a personal consultation.

**Maddy Maxeiner**

associate vice chancellor for external relations  
320-589-6386

[maxeinme@morris.umn.edu](mailto:maxeinme@morris.umn.edu)

**Susan Schmidgall**

development officer  
320-589-6160

[sschmidg@morris.umn.edu](mailto:sschmidg@morris.umn.edu)

**Carla Riley**

director of alumni relations and annual giving  
320-589-6066

[rileycj@morris.umn.edu](mailto:rileycj@morris.umn.edu)

## Tips for giving in a down market

Donating securities at year-end may still be advantageous, despite the decline in stock market values. If you hold longterm shares that enjoyed substantial gains over cost basis, you may side step a capital gains liability by donating them to a charitable organization like UMM. If these securities are not earning income, you could use them to create gift annuities which provide a steady income stream during troubled times. Or, if you plan to contribute cash to a favorite charity, you may prefer to donate long-held securities and use cash to buy other stocks at current lower market rates. Finally, there may also be an advantage to liquidating stock now below its cost basis. Donors may then take a capital loss on taxes and make a gift of the cash at the 50 percent of AGI deduction rather than the 30 percent of AGI for stock and other property.

Visit UMM Fund Development online.  
[morris.umn.edu/alumni/funddevelopment](http://morris.umn.edu/alumni/funddevelopment)

## A message from Maddy Maxeiner, associate vice chancellor for external relations



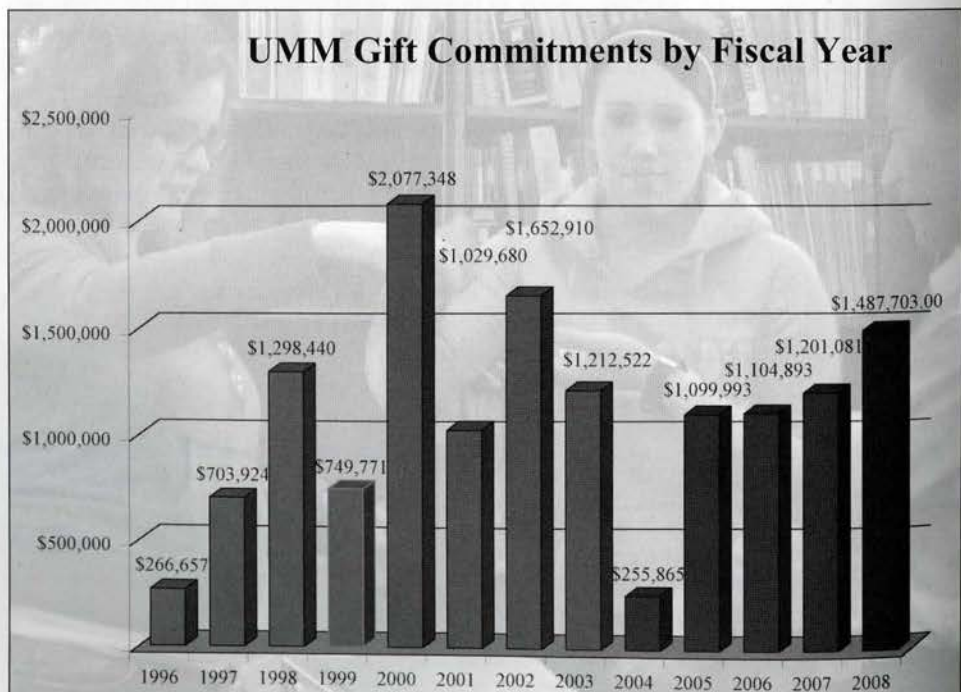
Welcome to our 2008 Honor Roll of Donors. Our autumn edition of *Profile* is devoted to you—our thoughtful and generous supporters. Many of you have contributed your philanthropic dollars to UMM, and we thank you for that! Perhaps you have supported us by recommending a student, by hiring a UMM grad, or by coming back to campus. Even something as simple as your true good words about UMM comes highly valued. However you choose to support UMM, we are indeed grateful, and we pledge to make you proud of your affiliation.

Financial gifts to UMM increased by an encouraging 24 percent in the fiscal year completed on June 30, 2008. These commitments include outright gifts as well as pledges and deferred gifts including bequests, beneficiary designations, and planned gifts. Contributions through our annual giving program increased by 19 percent over the previous fiscal year. Thank you for bringing us such great news!

## What does this mean to UMM?

First, vigorous giving sends a strong message. It says: "We believe in the UMM mission, and we will help assure its future." Second, private gifts are an increasingly important source of revenue for UMM. Why? Because state support provides a smaller piece of the University of Minnesota budget each year. And climbing tuition stands as a direct challenge to our mission of access and affordability. Donors are valued partners in this enterprise, because you contribute the resources that balance the "affordable and excellent" equation. Thank you.

We hope you enjoy reading about all of the ways in which supporters like you make a difference in the lives of others. Staff and faculty, Morris area businesses, alumni, retirees, parents and treasured friends—all of you set powerful examples through your voluntary giving to UMM. If you are thinking about ways to positively impact lives here, give me a call! We love to hear your ideas, your stories, your thoughts, and your dreams for UMM.







Fischer



Zeller

## Annual Scholarship Jubilee honors donors and their scholarship recipients

The annual Scholarship Jubilee was held September 27, 2008, in Oyate Hall in the Student Center. The annual event's purpose is three-fold: to thank scholarship donors; to honor students who receive privately funded scholarships; and to provide an opportunity for donors to meet their scholarship recipients. Campus representatives and parents are also invited to the festive occasion that this year celebrated the awarding of more than 200 scholarships for the 2008-09 academic year funded by donor contributions.

Maddy Maxeiner, associate vice chancellor for external relations, introduced the guest speakers during the program. Russ Fischer and Karen Zeller represented scholarship donors. Fischer received a round of applause from the gathering when he stated that scholarship donors appreciate "sharing a slice of success with the students." Zeller shared stories about her mother, Florence Eystad Gahm, for whom UMM received a memorial scholarship from Gahm's late husband, Wilbur Gahm. A passionate educator, Florence inspired her daughter to love learning, too.

The Gertrude Gaffney Hanlon Memorial Scholarship recipient, Kathy Julik-Heine '11, Taylors Falls, represented the 2008-09 scholarship recipients. With gratitude, she described the honor of receiving the Hanlon scholarship as "unprecedented" and noted that scholarships allow students "the freedom to pursue our education" without financial pressure.

Chancellor Jacquie Johnson also shared her appreciation for the support of donors and expressed her congratulations to the scholarship recipients.

To learn about establishing a scholarship at Morris, please contact Maddy Maxeiner at 320-589-6386 or maxeinme@morris.umn.edu.



Julik-Heine '11

## Fiscal Year 2008 Highlights

- Received \$1,487,703 in gifts and new pledges, up 24 percent over 2007
- Received gifts and pledges from more than 2,300 donors in support of UMM's mission, students, faculty, staff, and programs
- Number of Maroon and Gold partners giving annual donations of \$1,000 or more increased to a total of 74 donors, up 90 percent over fiscal year 2007
- Total solicited annual gift dollars up 19 percent over 2007
- Awarded 155 donor-funded scholarships
- Awarded 49 donor-funded honor awards
- Created five new endowed scholarships
- Received three Promise of Tomorrow President's Scholarship Matches
- Enrolled or upgraded nine Presidents Club members, bringing UMM membership to 306

## Fiscal Year 2008 Gift Purpose

- Scholarships and student support received 84 percent of funds raised
- Academic programs, research, and outreach received 15 percent of funds raised
- A variety of other purposes received one percent of funds raised



## Bremer Bank of Morris: investing in community

In 1944, successful banker Otto Bremer created a unique partnership between a newly established nonprofit charitable trust, the Otto Bremer Foundation, and the employees of the many “countryside” banks in which he invested. His plan for shared ownership between employees and foundation, the only one of its kind in the United States, reflects his spirit of collaboration and his passion for building community. The people of Bremer Bank of Morris illustrate Otto’s vision in action, and the people of the University of Minnesota, Morris—students, faculty, staff, alumni, retirees—have benefited from their support.

“Bremer equals community investment,” says Jan Hagen, president of the Bremer Bank of Morris, “and we believe in that philosophy.” The institution invests in the region in a number of ways in addition to providing community-centered banking services. Every one of its thirty-two member staff engages in civic service, collectively volunteering with more than sixty nonprofit organizations. The bank earmarks an annual budget exclusively for charitable donations to support area organizations, and the appointed charitable-giving committee, meeting biweekly, “gives out every penny.” The bank’s partner, the Otto Bremer Foundation, also provides financial support in the form of grants to nonprofit organizations for area projects and programs including several at UMM.

### Campus/community partnership: the Regional Fitness Center

With the late Loren Carr serving as president, Bremer Bank of Morris was an early supporter, philosophically and financially, of the Regional Fitness Center (RFC), a campus/community partnership that was completed in 2001. The facility serves as an ideal example of Bremer’s mission because it brings people of all ages and backgrounds together to exercise, to play, and to learn. Advocates for the project, representing all segments of the Morris area community, lobbied the Minnesota Legislature for funding and raised one third of the funds needed in private giving in order to make the facility a reality. Today, thousands of people enjoy RFC amenities, and nearly 2,700 people hold memberships.

Shares Pat Kieffer of Bremer Bank of Morris: “Loren believed the RFC project would build ties between the University and the community.” And it has, says coworker Diane Anspach:



“Students are working out. Whole families are there together. Kids are meeting with their friends. The RFC is definitely an asset to the community.”

### Carr scholarship: tribute to a servant leader

Carr passed away in 2003, and the community mourned the loss of a friend and colleague. When members of the Carr family established the Loren W. Carr Memorial Scholarship, the staff of Bremer Bank of Morris found the project to be exactly what it needed to celebrate their years working with a gifted servant leader. Bremer Bank of Morris’ gift to the Carr scholarship supports UMM students who like Carr possess a desire to serve as community leaders and to engage in civic activities and organizations.

Carr would happily tackle any civic project or problem with gusto to support the well-being of the people who make their home in west central Minnesota. “It makes us laugh to remember that Loren served on the very first Technology Task Force in Morris back in the 1980s,” share his colleagues. “In fact, he ended up as chairperson. That’s funny, because we know that he had very little understanding of technology or computers. But Loren was always willing to serve. He could ‘keep the ball rolling,’ and he loved new ideas. Loren knew technology was the future and would be important to the community. And his passion was community.”

Shares Lynn Asmus of Bremer Bank of Morris: “Any business that came into the bank received Loren’s full, creative attention. He loved ‘thinking out of the box.’ To make his point, he would take off his glasses and return them to their place... upside down... to signify a new approach to a challenge. He loved the inventive thinking stage of every new project.”

Recalling Carr’s legendary sense of humor elicits numerous stories. He loved practical jokes, even if played on him. Hagen remembers bringing Carr a cup of cold coffee one birthday morning...in which two minnows swam. His 60-year celebration involved a fully decorated office complete with wheelchair...in which he sat the entire day.

Carr’s Bremer friends believe that he would be very touched by the Loren W. Carr Memorial Scholarship but would quickly redirect the focus from himself to recipients. States Kieffer: “Loren was very humble. He was a leader who knew he couldn’t do it alone. He believed the key to a successful team was making everyone feel good about themselves and empowering them to make good decisions.”

Adds Hagen: “Loren never took the credit for success. It was always the team.”

And, shares Anspach: “Loren would be so proud of the student leaders who receive his scholarship.”

**The Regional Fitness Center, supported by Bremer Bank, brings together members of the Morris area community.**



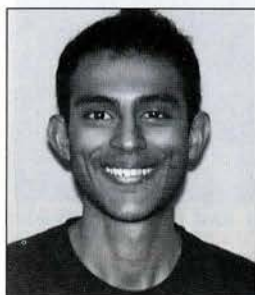
**Loren Carr**



## Otto Bremer Foundation supports faculty and student fellows program

A three-year grant from the Otto Bremer Foundation supports the Center for Small Town's (CST) Small Town Faculty and Student Fellows Program. The program connects community-based challenges with UMM faculty research interests to enhance regional community development activities. The CST, with more than 10 years of working on locally identified issues, utilizes staff, methodology, and resources to provide assistance to regional communities while weaving outreach into academic life.

Prash Naidu '10, Singapore, shares: "Through the Small Town Faculty and Student Fellows Program, Donna Chollett, associate professor of anthropology, and I were tasked to produce a Local Foods Assessment report for Kandiyohi County. It is a crucial step in surveying the current situation of locally produced and consumed foods and proposing possible solutions to stimulate a fully integrated food system. The opportunity puts theoretical perspectives learned in class into practice."



**Naidu**

The mentoring relationship developed with Professor Chollett will be one of my UMM highlights. She brings a wealth of scholarly experience, personal vision, and rigorous academic spirit. There have been countless *aha* moments when she helped me view a situation or issue from an angle that I had not considered."

Engin Sungur, professor of statistics, is faculty coordinator for the fellows program. Ben Winchester '95, CST coordinator of data analysis and research, is grant program coordinator.

CST, a community outreach program housed at UMM, serves as a point-of-entry to University resources. Its mission is to assist Minnesota's small towns with locally identified issues while creating applied learning opportunities for faculty and students.



From left: Jon Lund, Anna's father; Anna Lund '12, Little Canada, a 2008 Loren W. Carr Memorial Scholarship recipient; Judi Carr; Darron and Michelle Carr

## Loren W. Carr Memorial Scholarship

Recipients of the 2008-09 Loren W. Carr Memorial Scholarships are Stephanie Lippo '12, North Branch; Anna Lund '12, Little Canada; and Ashli M. Tucker '09, Stillwater. The scholarship was established by Loren's daughter, Stephanie Carr '94, her husband, David Valdovinos, and members of the Morris community, including Bremer Bank of Morris. In keeping with the values embodied by Loren Carr, longtime west central business and community leader, scholarship recipients are chosen based on academic merit, leadership skills, and volunteering or service-oriented roles.



**Lippo**

### Stephanie Lippo '12, North Branch, biology, pre-dentistry

"I was excited that I was one of the lucky ones to receive a Carr scholarship. It will really help me accomplish my dreams and goals. I don't think that there are enough ways or words to thank the Carr family and Carr scholarship donors for what they have done to help me on my journey."

Throughout high school, Lippo was involved in Community Education helping with the youth volleyball and track programs. She was also active in National Honor Society. At UMM, she is involved in Big Friend Little Friend, Students Against Cancer, and volunteers with the campus blood drive.

### Ashli Tucker '09, Stillwater, chemistry/biochemistry

"I feel so fortunate and appreciative to have been given such a wonderful gift. Judi Carr is more than a scholarship donor to me. She is such an amazing woman and friend that when I found out I was receiving it for a second year that I couldn't even express my gratitude. I love that Judi is a part of my life now and that our friendship goes beyond the scholarship itself. When you meet your donor and give her a hug and truly see that she believes in you and your future, that says everything."



**Tucker**

Tucker worked on the local Habitat for Humanity House and volunteers at the local co-op. "I think the activity I enjoy the most is the Big Friend Little Friend program," she shares. "I hang out with and mentor the most intuitive and fun little boy. It is a way to be a positive influence on a child and also an opportunity to become part of a family within the community. It is rewarding!"

Involvement with the Morris area ambulance service inspired career goals. "I had amazing experiences preparing to be an emergency medical technician. I discovered that I love the medical field and the science behind it. I plan to attend medical school to become an obstetrician."



## Cathy and Ernest Kemble's gifts express deep appreciation for UMM students and faculty

Student experiences—past, present, and future—inspire Cathy and Ernest Kemble's charitable giving to the University of Minnesota, Morris. Their own experiences as undergraduate students, as research scholar, and as lifelong learners inform their actions. Their gifts to the Psychology Endowment Fund honor UMM students, faculty, and alumni who enriched Ernie's professional career and the Kembles' personal lives, as well.

### Ernie's experiences as a student

Ernie, professor emeritus of psychology, earned a bachelor of arts from Memphis State University. His undergraduate career in the early 1960s was a financial struggle. "I had no 'financial advantage,'" remembers Ernie. "One semester, I could only afford four credits. That early experience," he shares, "convinced me that if at some point I could do something to help students along, I would—deferred payment."

After earning a master of arts and doctor of philosophy in biological psychology at Vanderbilt University in 1966, Ernie accepted a UMM appointment and began establishing his reputation as an excellent teacher. After three years, he left UMM to complete a post-doctoral fellowship in Rochester, New York. That opportunity made a major impact on his career.

"I discovered how much I missed Morris," recalls Ernie. "It struck me that Morris had the best undergraduates that I had ever taught—the kindest and most considerate, too. I was overjoyed to come back to Morris."

### Faculty and students collaborative research

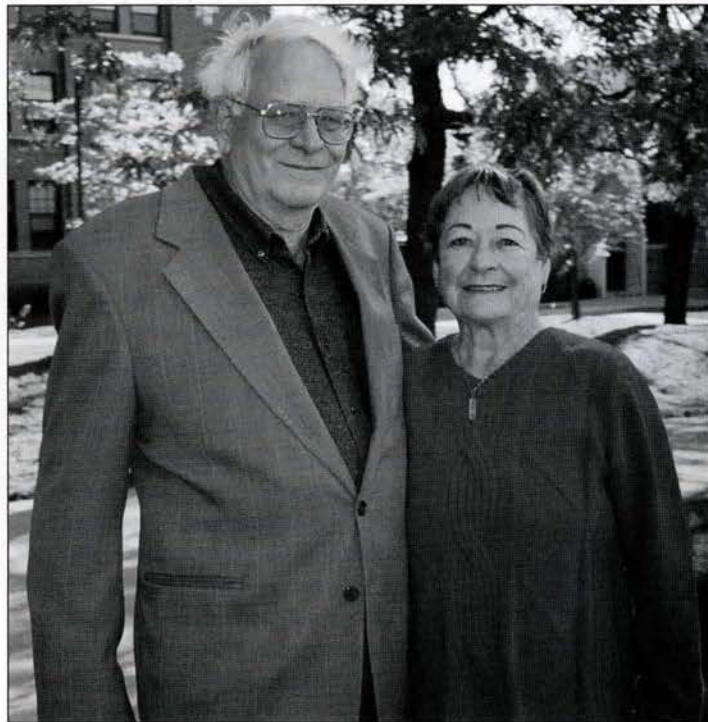
Throughout Ernie's UMM career, he advocated for student involvement in research. "I recognized my lack of research experience at the undergraduate level and that made me realize its importance," he says. "I wanted opportunities for my students to be involved in research, to publish papers."

One of the many ways Ernie involved students was a self-imposed goal to invent one new research project for "the old Psy 3 methods" course each year. "It was fun thinking up something new with my teaching assistants (TAs)," he remembers. "Very often, the students played as big a role as I did. I'd throw out an idea, and they would discuss. Some projects turned out so well that we published them."

Ernie appreciated working closely with students. Formally in class or informally in the labs while eating "sardines and crackers," getting to know students brought joy to his work.

### Research at the University of Hawaii

With a great love for research, Ernie conducted studies in a number of areas during his career. One study found the Kembles in Hawaii where Ernie investigated aggressive and defensive behaviors at the University of Hawaii with noted researchers Robert Blanchard and Caroline Blanchard. "We caught wild rats in the cane fields, then studied changes in response to septal



Cathy and Ernest Kemble

brain lesions," shares Ernie. "With all its crudity—a rat ran up my pants leg—the experiment was remarkably precise. We determined the offensive/defensive aggression mechanism within 1/10th of a millimeter." Ernie shared his research with a Harvard University biologist conducting human research in the same area.

### Cathy's student experiences

Cathy began an undergraduate degree at the University of Tennessee, but education was temporarily on hold while Ernie completed graduate school and they raised daughter Katrina. Eventually, it was Cathy's turn to be a student again. In 1982, she graduated from UMM in elementary education. She taught Learning is Fun through Morris Area Community Education and as a Title I teacher at Morris Area Elementary School. Retired since 1995, Cathy still misses her students: "I loved the people who I worked with, and I loved working with the kids."

### Service to campus and community

The Kembles hold a deep appreciation for UMM students and faculty, for the campus community, and for the community of Morris. Cathy is an enthusiastic volunteer serving on the board of directors for the UMM Retirees Association and Briggs Library Associates. She is a volunteer for the Stevens County Historical Society, and UMM's annual Ice Cream and Lollipops children's art exhibit each spring. And she volunteers as a reader at the West Wind Village in Morris.

### Gifts to honor students

The Kembles designate their UMM gifts to the UMM Psychology Endowment. The fund was created in 1992, the year of Ernie's retirement, by Ernie and Eric Klinger, professor emeritus of psychology, to support research apprenticeships for students to work with psychology faculty.



# Professor Paula O'Loughlin's giving: it's all about the students

Paula O'Loughlin, associate professor of political science, joined the University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM) faculty in 1996. Soon after, she made her first philanthropic gift to the campus. Steadily and progressively, she continues to contribute to multiple programs that enhance the student experience at UMM. A modest donor, she shares her story to bolster a secondary purpose for giving. "If I inspire others to donate, I multiply my impact," says O'Loughlin, "and that is awesome."

Before receiving a doctorate in political science from the University of Minnesota in 1998, O'Loughlin earned a bachelor of arts in government from Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts. Her own positive undergraduate experience fuels decisions as to which UMM projects to support, but always her giving, she says, is all about the students.

## Once-in-a-life-time opportunities

Through philanthropic gifts to the Bos Undergraduate Research Award, O'Loughlin assists students conducting research or presenting research at conferences. She designates gifts to the Minge Internship Award that supports students participating in Washington, D. C., internships. O'Loughlin established the Catalyst Fund to help students participate in once-in-a-lifetime opportunities, such as political event attendance, that student fee money does not cover. And, she helped create the Jooinn Lee Lecture Series. The new program will be inaugurated in spring 2009 and will invite political science experts to speak on campus.

## A culture of giving

Each spring before commencement, O'Loughlin makes an "in honor" gift for her advisees and students with whom she worked closely, political science majors and others. She asks each soon-to-be graduate to

choose the designation for his/her gift and shares her expectation that each new alumnus will support UMM in the future. "I want to establish a culture of giving at UMM," states O'Loughlin.

The current chair of the faculty and staff fundraising campaign, O'Loughlin encourages campus colleagues to give to UMM, too, and especially recommends the payroll deduction option, her method of giving. She says: "Payroll deductions really make it easy to give. I don't see it. I don't miss it."

## Establishing a new scholarship

O'Loughlin's newest payroll deduction will be directed to a scholarship to be named for a former adviser and mentor, and for former students. Her gifts will create an endowed fund. The principal will be invested to last in perpetuity. Part of the earnings will be annually expended for scholarships, while a portion will be added to the principal to allow for inflation and to maintain the fund's purchasing power to support future students.

The scholarship qualifies for the Promise of Tomorrow President's Scholarship Match. Each year, the University of Minnesota will match the scholarship amount—another way O'Loughlin increases the impact of her giving.

"UMM has given me a lot," states O'Loughlin. "I've found the perfect school for me: quirky, mischievous, high-

ability students; an egalitarian campus community; the chance to help build an institution, a sense of ownership. Everyone at UMM is here because of this gift—to be a part of this great UMM adventure. The reward for being here is being here."

Working with students in the classroom is O'Loughlin's favorite campus responsibility, but for the next three years she will also serve as director of the Academic Center for Enrichment (ACE). A centralized location for information, ACE allows students to explore options for undergraduate research, study abroad, national scholarship opportunities, and other ways to enrich classroom learning such as National Student Exchange and the Honors Program.

O'Loughlin has received the Horace T. Morse University of Minnesota Alumni Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Education, the University of Minnesota John Tate Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Advising, the University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association Teaching Award, and the Outstanding Support of Student Leadership Award at University of Minnesota, Morris.

## Ordinary people making an extraordinary difference

O'Loughlin co-authored *Courageous Resistance: The Power of Ordinary People*. The viewpoint that ordinary people can make an extraordinary

difference holds true in her giving as well. "By giving to UMM, I'm helping to instill the idea that even if you are not rich, you can still give," she says. "A little bit goes a long ways at UMM."



**Photo: Jacquie Johnson, chancellor (left), and Maddy Maxeiner, associate vice chancellor for external relations (right) thank Paula O'Loughlin, associate professor of political science, for her many gifts to UMM.**



# Vogt scholarship helps students achieve fulfillment in life

Before Carol '70 and Don Vogt '68 commenced on a new chapter in their lives, they paused to reflect. Gratitude for meaningful college experiences, for successful careers, and for the gift of family inspired them to consider ways to acknowledge all they have received. They decided to establish an endowed scholarship at the University of Minnesota, Morris. The Donald H. and Carol Connor Vogt Scholarship financially supports and encourages today's students and will do so far into UMM's future.

## Long-lasting UMM relationships

Carol, a native of Hastings, and Don, who grew up on a farm near Truman, both learned about the Morris campus in the same way—through high school friends who attended UMM. They both chose UMM for the same reasons, too, for its academic reputation and its size.

"We both enjoyed the small campus atmosphere," remembers Don," and athletic events, and Louie's Lower Level, and the opportunity to develop strong and long-lasting friendships. Most importantly, UMM is where Carol and I met in 1966. We married the day after she graduated in 1970!"

Don knew that he wanted to pursue a business career and quickly decided on an economics major. The late Sun Kahng, professor of economics, left a lasting impression: "He lectured me equally on the fundamentals of economics and the need to attend his 8 a.m. lectures that I seemed to have a hard time making!"

Membership in Phi Mu Delta also impacted Don's UMM experience. "The mid to late 60s were a time of radical and challenging changes for America's young people," reflects Don. "In some way, we all wrestled with war and its impact on so many lives. The many hours of discussion and debate in which I learned to express my opinions, learned to listen to and respect others' opinions although often different than mine, and learned to support others who were struggling with life-changing decisions were lifelong learning experiences that have been very helpful in my business and personal life."

Carol arrived at UMM with the goal of becoming an English teacher. In addition to an English major, she earned a Spanish minor, the language she studied in high school. Professor Jim Gremmels was a key figure in her UMM career. "His classes were always interesting," Carol recalls. "He influenced me as an excellent professor, role model, and a compassionate individual. David Longley, director of housing, was also an important role model. From him, I learned leadership and team building skills while serving as a resident hall adviser for three years."

After graduating from UMM, Carol taught high school English for five years before their children were born. Since then, she has enjoyed the roles and responsibilities of stay-at-home mom; community, church, and school volunteer; substitute teacher; vocational trainer for special needs students; and research and lab assistant at a major food company.

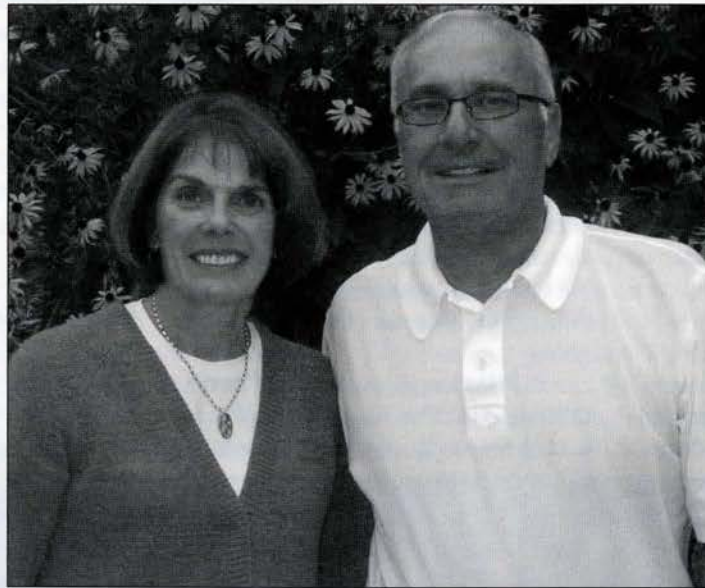
Don began a career with Cargill following his UMM graduation in 1968. "I spent my entire 39-year career with Cargill in various positions within agricultural related businesses," he shares. His retirement in July 2007 served as the impetus for the Vogts to explore establishing a UMM scholarship.

## Helping students reach fulfillment

State Don and Carol: "UMM made a significant impact on our lives in so many ways. As we enter a new chapter in our life, we want to 'give-back.' Our hope is that our scholarship will help young aspiring students reach the fulfillment in life that we have been able to achieve."

In honor of Don's career in agriculture and his history of growing up on a farm, preference for the Donald H. and Carol Connor Vogt Scholarship will be new UMM students, including transfer students, who have agricultural ties. Recipients will demonstrate academic promise and will be eligible to receive the scholarship for three additional years with satisfactory academic progress.

The Vogt's scholarship gift to UMM will be invested. Each year, a portion of the interest earned will be used to support student scholarships. Part of the interest will be added to the principal allowing the fund to continue growing to support future students. The Vogt scholarship qualifies for the Promise of Tomorrow

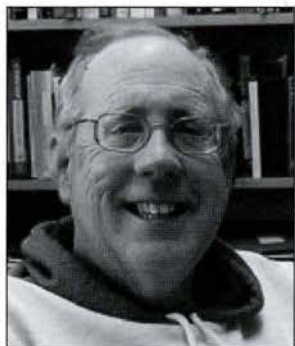


**Carol '70 and Don Vogt '68**

President's Scholarship Match. Each year, the University of Minnesota will match the scholarship amount, doubling the impact of the Vogt's gift.

Carol and Don make their home in Maple Grove and enjoy summer activities at a cabin near Brainerd and winter activities in the Colorado Rocky Mountains. Son Jason, a managing director for Black River Asset Management, makes his home in Minneapolis with wife Treva. Daughter Lindsay earned a master of social work and serves as a high school social worker in Thornton, Colorado. Daughter Leah completed a master of education and teaches first grade at Country Day School in Escazu, Costa Rica, where Carol hopes to brush up on her UMM Spanish.



**Dwight Purdy**

## Dwight and Jeanne Purdy's gifts recognize student needs and honor academic excellence

Before retirees Dwight and Jeanne Purdy relocated from the Minnesota prairie to the banks of the Bayou Teche in Louisiana, they made a charitable donation to UMM that established three gift funds that benefit UMM students—The Dwight Purdy Graduate School

Application Fund for English Majors, the Dwight Purdy English Conferences Fund; and the Dwight Purdy English Award. Their gifts represent a desire to encourage, to support, and to recognize the achievements of UMM students.

### Paving the way to graduate school

Throughout their many years at UMM, Dwight, professor emeritus of English, and Jeanne, retired instructor of English, witnessed talented students discovering academic passions. Concurrently, they observed the impact of rising graduate school application fees on their students' plans for continued study.

The Purdys' gift assists students like Kim Ukura '08, a journalism graduate student at the University of Wisconsin, Madison: "As a UMM senior, I was happy to learn about the Purdy Graduate School Application Fund for English Majors. In order to receive the assistance, I attended workshops with English faculty. We talked about how to apply, application strategies, and how to decide where to apply. Application costs add up, especially if money is tight. It was good to receive the help and appreciated."

### The importance of conference attendance

Dwight and Jeanne believe conference attendance is "all-important" for both faculty and students. The Dwight Purdy English Conferences Fund provides assistance for transportation and lodging to students and faculty to attend scholarly gatherings. "Nothing looks better on a résumé," state Jeanne and Dwight. "Conference attendance shows ability, interest, and dedication."

Sarah Vig '08 shares: "The Purdy conference fund was an enormous boon. I was thrilled to receive assistance to attend the Midwest Popular Culture Association Conference. The award allowed me to experience all the benefits of conferencing my paper, 'Establishing Borders: Reclaiming Space in the Poetry of Medbh McGuckian,' at a graduate/professional level. The paper examines the poetry of a contemporary Irish woman and explores how hospitality is used as a lens to interpret the divide between masculine (public) and feminine (domestic) space in Irish culture. I participated in a panel on popular understandings of Irishness and presented my work to and with Irish studies graduate students and professors. I was the only undergraduate to present."

Vig, currently serves with AmeriCorps Project Conserve's Appalachian Voices program in Boone, North Carolina. She plans to attend graduate school in journalism next year.

### Recognizing academic excellence

Benjamin Wheeler '09, Racine, received the Purdy English Award for Best Essay last year. He states: In "Creatures of Their

Own Minds: Ontological Division and Personal Alienation in Faulkner's *Light in August* and *The Sound and the Fury*," I tried to show that the hierarchical model that ontologically divides people based on religion in *Light in August* also ontologically divides people in *The Sound and the Fury*—and to an extent in *Light in August*—based on socioeconomic status rather than a conception of God. My idea was that there was a secular model at work as well as a theological model. Since the essay was written, my ideas have changed, but that's just the way learning works."

After a "mental cool-down" after UMM graduation, Wheeler is considering studying for a master of art in composition and also a master of fine arts in creative writing.

### Joie de vivre

While they miss conversations with UMM colleagues and especially students "so full of possibilities and potential," Dwight and Jeanne find retirement satisfying. They sit on their deck under the shade of an elm, Scottish deerhound at their feet, and read what they want, "not marking up books preparing for lectures." These days, Jeanne is reading *Orlando Furioso*, while Dwight moves through *The Portable Chekov*.

Music, too, creates *joie de vivre*. "Live music is pervasive here," shares Jeanne. "The clubs have bands on weekends, and most restaurants and even diners. Outdoor concerts feature classical music, zydeco, western, rock, blues, Texas swing, and country. We have an excellent orchestra. So far, we haven't felt the economic pinch with all the free performances!"

When they retired from UMM in 2005, Dwight and Jeanne looked forward to gardening in their new southern location. It has not disappointed. Many vegetables—tomatoes, potatoes, squash, beans—ring familiar to northerners, but the Purdy fruits resonate exotic: lemons, oranges, kumquats, figs, and pomegranates.

Family gatherings are favorite activities. The Purdys moved to Louisiana, between St. Martinville and New Iberia, to be near Jeanne's sisters, brother, nieces, nephews, and cousins. Now the list also includes daughters Meg and Anna who moved to Lafayette. Son Steve lives in Rugby, North Dakota. Jeanne reports that they send him warm clothes!

While books, music, family, and gardens pleasantly fill their days, Dwight and Jeanne will forever remain scholars and teachers. Jeanne has lectured on mythology at the University of Louisiana, Lafayette. Dwight is editing a book written by former student Jon Mukand '80, a physiatrist whose research involves paralyzed patients and the implantation of a permanent, brain-computer interface for controlling a computer.

*The Purdys invite friends and former students to write or visit them. Jeanne's e-mail address is jibjeanne@yahoo.com.*

**Jeanne Purdy**



## Briefs

### Morris campus honored by Rocky Mountain Institute

The Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI), an independent, entrepreneurial, nonprofit organization fostering efficient and restorative use of resources, has chosen UMM as one of twelve colleges nationwide to host an RMI researchers' visit and workshop. The campus event is tentatively scheduled for February 2009.

### UMM choirs prepare holiday gift of music

"Gifts" will be the theme of the 31st annual Carol Concert, a holiday tradition. Performances begin on Friday, December 5, 2008, at 7:30 p.m. in the Morris Area Schools Concert Hall and continue through Sunday, December 7, 2008. A play written by Rachel Gilman '08, *Lake Elmo*, will be performed. For ticket information, contact the music office at 320-589-6234.

### Alumnus Doug Lennick's public address available online

The co-author of *Moral Intelligence* and a member of the Chancellor's Advisory Council, Doug Lennick presented a public address on leadership and ethics on campus in October 2008. The well-received speech is online at [morris.umn.edu/alumni/images/lennick.ram](http://morris.umn.edu/alumni/images/lennick.ram).

### UMM team receives Best Paper Award at EuroGP 2008 in Italy

Tyler Hutchison '07, New Brighton, Brian Ohs '08, Maplewood, and Nic McPhee, professor of computer science, researched and co-authored a paper on genetic programming that received Best Paper Award at the EuroGP 2008 conference in Naples, Italy. Hutchison and McPhee attended the conference and presented the paper.

### New travel opportunity

Alumni, retirees, and friends of the campus are invited to travel to Greece for 10 days during spring break 2009 with UMM faculty and staff. Learn more by calling 320-589-6464.



## Biomass gasification facility publicly dedicated in October 2008

The new biomass gasification facility on the University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM) campus was publicly dedicated on October 3, 2008. UMM and the West Central Research and Outreach Center (WCROC) hosted the event. Dedication events included a noon luncheon in Oyate Hall in the Student Center, musical entertainment by the Morris Kiwanis Quartet, comments and speeches by dignitaries, and public tours of the new biomass facility and the WCROC wind turbine that provides 60 percent of UMM's electricity. The culminating outdoor ceremony was held at the biomass gasification facility located east of the Physical Education Center.

Speakers during dedication events included Jacquie Johnson, chancellor; Lowell Rasmussen, vice chancellor for finance and facilities; Mike Reese, renewable energy coordinator, WCROC; John Frobenius, University of Minnesota regent; Patrick Chester '09, Cass Lake, Morris Campus Student Association president; Richard A Hemmingsen, director of University of Minnesota Institute on the Environment; Representative Torrey Westrom, R-District 11A; Representative Al Juhnke, D-District 13B; and delegates representing U.S. Senator Norm Coleman, R-Minnesota; U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar, D-Minnesota; and U.S. Congressman Collin Peterson, D-Minnesota.

### Facility offsets 80 percent of fossil fuel usage

A model community-based energy system, the new biomass gasification facility will use about 9,000 tons of biomass per year to roughly offset 80 percent of UMM's fossil fuel usage. Energy sources like corn stover and prairie grasses are being purchased from area farmers and producers, injecting significant dollars into the regional economy, creating new employment opportunities, a "green collar" economy, and an exciting future for west central Minnesota. The facility moves the campus one step closer to being energy self-sufficient and carbon neutral by 2010.

The biomass gasification facility project received one of twelve United States Departments of Agriculture and Energy (USDA/DOE) energy grants for \$1.89 million to conduct additional research related to biomass gasification. The largest received by the Morris campus to date, the grant allowed UMM and WCROC to add the USDA Agricultural Research Service—North Central Soil Conservation Research Lab as a research partner to study carbon sequestration, the capturing and storage of carbon.

**Photo above: biomass gasification facility dedication ceremony**



# UMM receives ACORE renewable energy achievement award

Cheri Olf, representing the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE) and the Higher Education Committee on Renewable Energy (HECRE), presented UMM the first annual ACORE Campus Renewable Energy Achievement Award during the biomass gasification facility dedication program held during Homecoming 2008. Olf noted that the University's new biomass facility "represents the highest level of commitment that our institutions of higher education can make to renewable energy," adding that ACORE's goal is to promote comparable efforts by all U.S. colleges and universities in both teaching about and transitioning to renewable energy sources.

Lowell Rasmussen, vice chancellor for finance and facilities, accepted the

award on behalf of the campus. "The University of Minnesota, Morris is honored to receive this recognition from the American Council On Renewable Energy. ACORE has been a champion for the use of renewable energy and the University is proud to be associated with this organization," said Rasmussen. UMM has been an ACORE member since 2006.

"We are honored to receive this recognition for our work in heating and cooling our campus using local, renewable energy resources," stated Jacquie Johnson, chancellor. "We are grateful to ACORE for their vision and leadership in changing the way we think and act in relation to our energy needs."



On behalf of the campus, Lowell Rasmussen, vice chancellor for finance and facilities, accepted the award from Cheri Olf, representing the American Council on Renewable Energy.

## Planning for 2010 campus celebration underway

The year 2010 will be a year of celebration at the University of Minnesota, Morris. A committee has been appointed to explore the many ways UMM will contemplate and celebrate campus history, including remembering its years as an American Indian boarding school in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

The campus will mark the 50th anniversary of the opening of the University of Minnesota, Morris, and the 100th anniversary of the opening of the West Central School of Agriculture, a University of Minnesota high school that educated youth of the region in a boarding environment.

As we commemorate the past, UMM will also celebrate the future. With the opening of the biomass gasification facility and continued use of electricity provided by the West Central Research and Outreach Center wind turbine, the campus is fast approaching its goal of attaining carbon neutrality and energy self-sufficiency.

Please watch for details of 2010 celebrations in future issues of *Profile* and *E-Express*. If you have ideas to share or historical stories to tell, please contact the committee at 320-589-6414 or [weberm@morris.umn.edu](mailto:weberm@morris.umn.edu).

Les Bensch '59, WCSA alumnus, Viking Valley Hunt Club  
 Roger Boleman, director, Media Services  
 Chris Butler, lecturer, UMM Continuing Education  
 Mike Cihak, assistant director, Media Services  
 Jacob Croonenberghs '09, Wahpeton, North Dakota  
 Sue Dieter '86, general manager, *Morris Sun Tribune*  
 Dennis Gimmestad '73, compliance officer, State Historic Preservation Office  
 Steve Granger, retired administrator  
 Sue Granger '80, Gemini Research  
 Blaine Hill '87, Morris city manager  
 Dennis Johnson, professor of animal science, West Central Research and Outreach Center  
 Jacqueline Johnson, chancellor  
 Hilda Ladner, director, Multi-Ethnic Student Program  
 Jeff Lamberty '99  
 Maggie Larson, special events coordinator, External Relations  
 Paul LeTendre, Morris area State Farm Insurance  
 Andy Lopez, co-chair, professor emeritus of computing science  
 Dian Lopez, co-chair, professor emeritus of computing science  
 Christine Mahoney, director of communications, University Relations  
 Maddy Maxeiner, associate vice chancellor for external relations  
 Barbara McGinnis, retired UMM librarian  
 Mike Miller, coordinator, Multi-Ethnic Student Program  
 Liz Morrison '74, writer  
 Jim Olson, professor emeritus of chemistry  
 Julie Pelletier, assistant professor of anthropology  
 Carla Riley '85, director, Alumni Relations and Annual Giving  
 Gwen Rudney, professor of elementary education  
 Bill Stewart, retired director, Minority Student Program  
 Jim Togeas, professor of chemistry  
 Carol Wilcox, former Morris mayor  
 Melissa Weber, community program assistant, University Relations



## A greeting from Carla Riley, director of alumni relations and annual giving



As evidenced by this Honor Roll of Donors issue of *Profile*, UMM alumni and friends continue to generously support the University of Minnesota, Morris. Increased numbers of gifts and total dollars received in our annual giving program as of the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2008, demonstrate that alumni and friends remain committed to the mission of this institution. Recent developments on the world's financial stage will likely

present future challenges for all of us, but I believe that UMM will continue to thrive with the help of dedicated alumni and friends who continue to partner with us in providing UMM students a top-notch, renewable, and sustainable education. Thank you for your continued loyalty and support.

"Renewable" and "sustainable" are words that commonly elicit positive reactions in today's world, and it is exciting to share UMM's goal of reaching carbon neutrality and energy self-sufficiency by the year 2010. Having recently returned from visiting alumni in Texas as part of the University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association's (UMMAA) "On the Road" program, I am pleased to report that the alumni with whom we visited are not only interested in joyfully reminiscing about their personal experiences while students, but also keenly interested in learning about what is happening at UMM today. They are impressed by, among many other noteworthy topics, UMM's renewable, sustainable, green initiatives. Though physically far-removed, they feel a deep sense of pride for UMM's mission and for all that UMM is accomplishing with its green endeavors.

I was surprised to recently learn that some alumni believe that they must formally "join" the UMMAA and pay dues. Rather than modeling other dues paying organizations, the UMMAA benefits from a robust annual giving program. Contributions to the Alumni Annual Fund are used to fund alumni programming which includes the UMMAA Teaching Award, *Profile*, Homecoming events and reunions, regional alumni events, student organizations grants, and, currently, the purchase of carbon credits. Your generosity makes what we do possible. We thank you for your continued support.

To be good stewards of your gifts, we continue to seek ways to better our efficiencies. UMM's green initiatives compel us to reduce our carbon footprint and to conserve natural resources. One way we accomplish these goals is to reduce the number of hard copy invitations printed and mailed. UMM's monthly electronic newsletter, *E-Express*, contains the same event information as would a postcard invitation but with little cost or use of resources. If you are not receiving *E-Express*, or other electronic communications from our office, please send us your e-mail address so that we can reach you electronically. We promise not to fill up your in-box.



## Young Alumni home buying seminar

UMM young alumni gathered in Eagan for a free educational seminar on home buying in October 2008. Sponsored by the UMM Alumni Association, the casual, informative evening provided timely information for young alumni considering purchasing their first home. Education Minnesota partners Brian Call, Educators Mortgage Services consultant and Rubicon Mortgage Advisors president, and Tom Reidy, Educators Realty Services, presented the free workshop.

The seminar, held at the Eagan Community Center, was also an excellent opportunity for young alumni to gather with UMM friends!

Shares Dan Moore '07: "The great thing about these UMMAA young alumni events is that campus, past and present, comes to you! With just a 20-minute drive I learn something new, hear what's happening in Mo-town, and catch up with classmates I haven't seen since graduation."

**Front row from left: Erin Schellin Christensen '05, Rebecca Maciej, (spouse of Jeff Maciej '01), Kelly Bierwerth '05. Back row: Ben Wood (Kimberly's brother), Kimberly Wood Shintre '05, Dan Moore '07, Brian Perrault '06**

## Save the dates for upcoming young alumni events!

### Young Alumni Morris Area Gathering

Thursday, January, 15, 2009, 6:30 p.m.  
Bello Cucina Restaurant, downtown Morris

### Young Alumni Service Project

Thursday, March 12, 2009, 5 p.m.,  
Second Harvest Heartland, 1140 Gervais, Maplewood

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Erin Schellin Christensen '05, program associate, at 320-589-6067, or [schellin@morris.umn.edu](mailto:schellin@morris.umn.edu), or check out the Web page at [morris.umn.edu/alumni/alumniRelations](http://morris.umn.edu/alumni/alumniRelations).



## Educator, researcher, author, and mentor: Rodriguez '89 honored with 2008 UMMAA Distinguished Alumni Award

The University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association (UMMAA) Board of Directors named Michael C. Rodriguez '89 recipient of the 2008 Distinguished Alumni Award. The award honors alumni who make noteworthy contributions in their professional lives, in public service, or in service to the University of Minnesota. Debra Carlson '72, UMMAA president, presented the award to Rodriguez at the Distinguished Alumni Award and Cougar Hall of Fame Banquet held on campus in October during Homecoming weekend.

An associate professor of quantitative methods in education in the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, Rodriguez also serves as program coordinator and director of the Office of Research Consultation and Services, CEHD. Rodriguez researches psychometric properties of tests and applied measurement with particular interest in Latino youth development and students with disabilities. He participates in a United States Agency for International Development project that is developing a national educational assessment program in Guatemala.

Rodriguez has been instrumental in creating a partnership between the Long Prairie-Grey Eagle School District, UMM, and the Minnesota College Access Network. He enthusiastically encourages Latino high school students and prospective students who are the first in their families to attend college, promoting higher education and his alma mater.

During his campus visit, Rodriguez met with the students of Chi Psi, the National Honor Society in Psychology, and attended a reception in his honor in the Multi-Ethnic Student Program building.

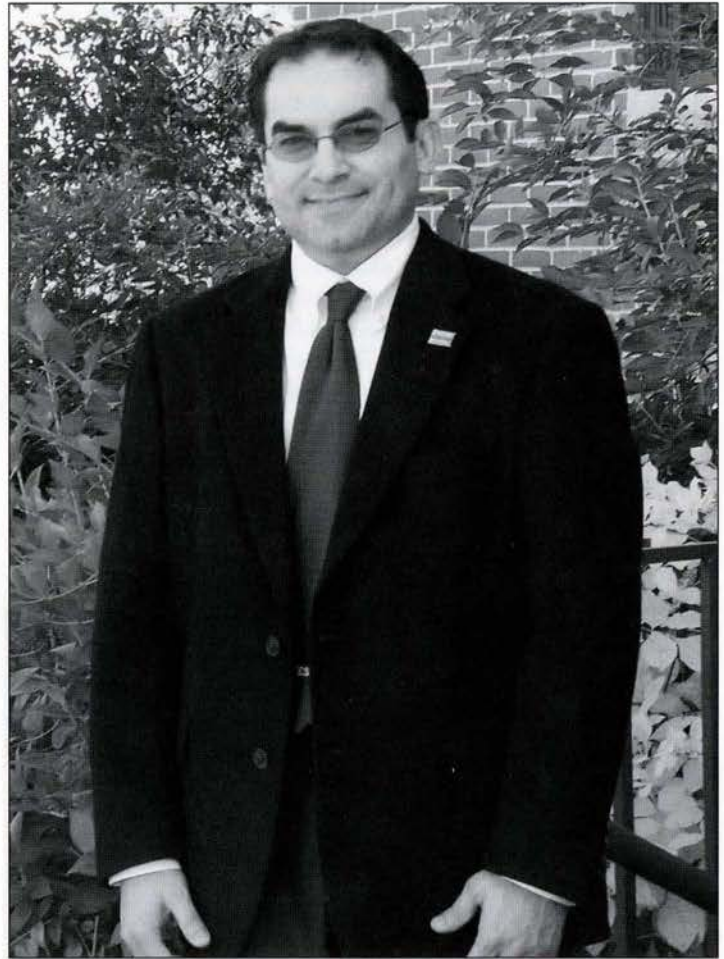
### UMM remembered as list of "firsts"

Accepting his award at the dinner, Rodriguez said that UMM marked many "firsts" in his life. He embarked on his first time away from home as a UMM freshman. As a student, he bought his first vehicle, a truck that brought with it many requests for helping friends move, he shared with a smile. UMM experiences allowed his first trip beyond Minnesota, his first travel by airplane, and his first trip abroad—to Scandinavia with the Concert Choir.

Rodriguez also reminisced about the many campus opportunities that "made it happen" for his career in education. As a student, he worked in the Academic Assistance Center, with the Multi-Ethnic Student Program, and in Community Services. He was active in the Big Brother/Big Sister program, and served in campus leadership roles with faculty, staff, and fellow students. "These opportunities wouldn't have happened any other place but at UMM," Rodriguez reflected during his acceptance comments.

### A supportive campus community

Gratefully noting the support he received from the campus community, Rodriguez cited Dian and Andy Lopez, professors emeriti of computer science, Sandy Olson-Loy, associate vice chancellor for student affairs, Bert Ahern, professor of history, and Janet Ahern, professor of music, as examples of how "people make it happen at UMM."



Rodriguez

Rodriguez, a UMM psychology major, earned a doctorate from Michigan State University with a concentration in educational measurement and psychometrics. He earned a master of arts in public affairs with concentrations in social policy and with an emphasis in education policy from the University of Minnesota Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs.

In addition to the UMM Distinguished Alumni Award, he received the 2008 Robert H. Beck Faculty Teaching Award from the College of Education and Human Development; the 2005 Albert J. Harris Research Award of the International Reading Association; and the 2004 Community Service Award from the College of Education and Human Development.

The author of numerous books and articles on educational psychology, Rodriguez is a member of the American Educational Research Association, the American Psychological Association, and the National Council on Measurement in Education.

States Carla Riley, director of alumni relations and annual giving: "We are pleased to honor Dr. Michael Rodriguez with this award. We celebrate Dr. Rodriguez as an accomplished educator, researcher, author, mentor, and advocate for under-represented students of color in rural Minnesota."



## Successful UMMAA “On the Road” program continues to connect and reconnect alumni from around the country

The UMM Alumni Association is once again “On the Road!” Alumni have been gathering with friends and campus representatives at locations across the country. Alumni in destination cities receive invitations to these events, but all alumni are welcomed! If one of the 2008-09 destinations matches up with a business trip or vacation travel, please join us! Event details are also published in *E-Express*, UMM’s monthly electronic newsletter. (Send your e-mail address to [alumni@morris.umn.edu](mailto:alumni@morris.umn.edu) if you aren’t receiving this publication.)

Destinations and anticipated dates of upcoming alumni gatherings are **Seattle**, January 22; **Twin Cities**, February 5, Midwinter Event; and **Phoenix**, February 9. In March, planning is underway for a Minnesota Public Radio event in the **Twin Cities**, and **Los Angeles** and **San Diego** visits. In April, visits are planned to **Cleveland**; in May, **Rochester**, Minnesota; and in June, **Milwaukee**. Check the UMMAA Web pages at [morris.umn.edu/alumni/alumniRelations](http://morris.umn.edu/alumni/alumniRelations) for details as they become available.



### New York

Alumni met for dinner at The View for the New York “On the Road” event in July 2008. Guests included Jeanne Driscoll '69, Dean Cary '69, Lorenzo Alvarez '87.



### St. Cloud

Alumni including Kathy Gustafson St. Martin '80, Tim Peterson '78, and Elaine Anderson '74 gathered at Mi Famiglia for the St. Cloud “On the Road” evening in August 2008.



### Houston

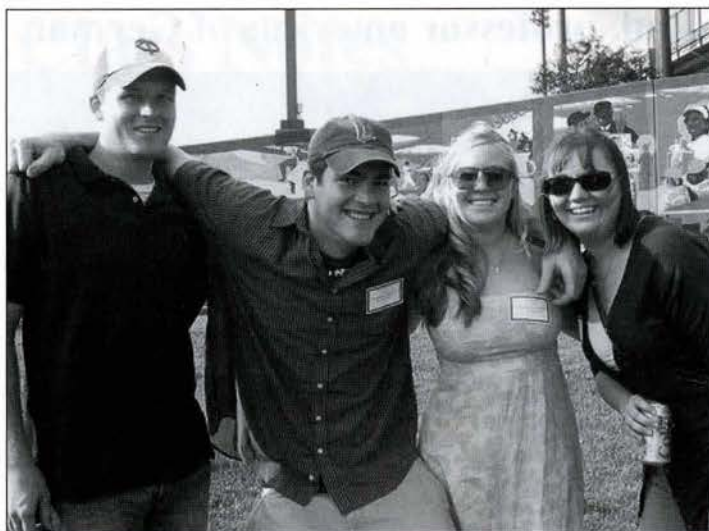
Grotto Ristorante in Houston was the scene of a alumni gathering in October 2008. Guests included Dione Morgan '01 and Linda Kinney '84.

### Dallas

In October 2008, the Dallas “On the Road” event found alumni gathering for dinner with the chancellor at Jasper’s Restaurant in the suburb of Plano. Attendees included Carla Riley '85, director of alumni relations and annual giving; Janelle Nelson Davis '79; Scott Giddings '80; Susan Bechtol Geddings '78; Susan Schmidgall, development officer; Mary Ann Frederickson Kilgo '69; Lorlee Bartos '69; Maddy Maxeiner '76, associate vice chancellor for external relations; Jacquie Johnson, chancellor; Sue Schildt, and Tim Schildt '79.







## Baseball and UMM friends

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association sponsored two alumni events that featured a favorite Minnesota pastime—baseball—and opportunities to gather with UMM friends.

### UMM at the St. Paul Saints

The annual UMM at the St. Paul Saints game at Midway Stadium was held on July 23, 2008. The Saints won 4-2 over the Wichita Wingnuts. From tailgating in the parking lot before the game until the last out in the last inning, a good time was had by all.

### UMM at the Minnesota Twins

UMMers gathered at the Metrodome to cheer on the Minnesota Twins on September 23, 2008. The home team won 9-3 against the Chicago White Sox.

**Top photo from left: St. Paul Saints fans Kevin Cunniff '07, David Holler '05, Carly West '05, and Emelie Baker '06**

**Bottom photo from left: Minnesota Twins fans Andrew Blissenbach '03, Nicole Blissenbach '02, Danushka Wanduragala '01, Mark Haugen '00, and Anna Haugen '99**



## A message from Debra Carlson '72 president of the UMMAA

Giving—to make a present of, to entrust, to bestow—a truly transforming notion! The UMM Alumni Association (UMMAA) is grateful for all the gifts received this past year from alumni. On behalf of the UMMAA, I extend my personal thank you to all of you who supported UMM this past year. The very act of giving, in any way or form, is a statement of your appreciation for the University of Minnesota, Morris, and validates the outstanding work happening daily at UMM.



Let me tell you about a few of the initiatives to which alumni gifts were designated and to which your UMMAA Board of Directors are entrusted.

The Alumni Association Scholarship Fund provides financial assistance to current students, helping them reach their higher education goals and plan for the future. The Green Energy Fund supports projects and programs related to the advancement of UMM green, sustainable energy initiatives. The UMMAA Impact Fund is directed for a three-year period to strategic or new initiatives. Currently, it is designated to purchase carbon credits to offset emissions produced by the campus service fleet—a significant percentage of which are hybrids. Gifts designated to the Alumni Annual Fund support programming and activities for alumni and current students. Established as the UMMAA's collective philanthropic arm, it supports projects such as Homecoming, alumni events, *Profile*, student activities, and grants for students to participate in educational conferences. And, the Cougar Pride Fund supports UMM athletics.

And it is not only financial gifts that we celebrate. On behalf of the UMMAA, I extend a thank you to each and every alumnus who invested him or herself in UMM last year. You attended alumni events and Homecoming. You listened to Chancellor Johnson's U.S. Senate remarks about the green initiatives at UMM. You made meals at Feed My Starving Children. You talked with colleagues about great things happening at UMM.

Consider these additional ways you might invest of yourself in UMM. Have you thought about serving on the board of directors? Or serving as a mentor to current students? Do you have an expertise you'd like to share with the UMMAA? Would you like to network with fellow alumni? This year, plan to attend a social get-together or gather online with alumni on MySpace, Facebook, or LinkedIn.

Here is something each and every one of you can do: Share your personal UMM story with a young person contemplating which college to attend. Give them your testimonial about why UMM was just the right place for you. It might be just the right place for him or her, too.



## Study abroad alumni gather with Ray Sibul, professor emeritus of German

Last summer, a reunion of alumni who in 1984 traveled and studied with Ray Sibul, professor emeritus of German, gathered in Morris to reminisce and reflect on the opportunities afforded by their UMM experiences. Participants in the 1984 trip were: John Sams '86, Pat Franey '85, Ray Sibul, Lynn Tauer '87, Danette Lachmiller Griffith '84, Deb Nieman Nelson '85, Sheryl Light Shriner '84, David Anderson '85, Dan Maiden '84, Sandy Tankoff '85, Jill Klinger '84 (now Heather Wertheimer), and David Johnson '84.

Shares Griffith: "In 1984, ten students spent three months in Kassel, Germany, with Professor Ray Sibul as part of the UMM German program. The quarter including coursework with Professor Sibul, who also encouraged us to go out and experience life in Germany—which we did. We lived with families which helped us learn more of the culture in addition to the language. Now, 24 years later, we decided to get together with Professor Sibul to thank him for the experience and to get to know one another again. We all enjoyed spending time with Herr Sibul. It was like jumping back in time, and we were in the classroom again."

Sheryl Light Shriner experienced the "back in time" moment, too. "It felt like we were stepping back into 1984 and that 24 years had not elapsed," she recalls. "Herr Sibul had not changed a bit and was the life of the party. It was so much fun to share stories about our trip, our UMM experiences, and our current lives. I was amazed



Photo clockwise from left: Linda Freyman Sams '86 and John Sams '86; Steve Griffith and Danette Lachmiller Griffith '84; Angela Perron Franey '88 and Pat Franey '85; Ray Sibul, professor emeritus of German; Lynne Tauer '87 and Phillip Goldman; Cheryl Light-Shriner '84 and son Marshall Shriner; Deb Nieman Nelson '85; and Deb Korkowski '85

at how much we have all accomplished in our lives. We are all proud that UMM and the German program (and other disciplines studied) have been part of our lives. We share a piece of UMM history and lasting friendships."

## Brand '95 delivers public campus address on federal judiciary

Rachel Brand '95, political science, presented a public lecture, "Viewing the Federal Judiciary from All Angles," on campus in October 2008. A 1998 Harvard Law School graduate, Brand served as assistant attorney general and associate counsel to the president under President George W. Bush.

A question and answer session followed Brand's lecture, during which she received inquiries about an area of expertise, the USA PATRIOT Act. In 2005, Brand prepared Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Samuel Alito for confirmation hearings regarding the act.

Brand is currently an attorney for the law firm WilmerHale in Washington, D.C. She serves as a counsel in the Regulatory and Government Affairs and Litigation and Controversy Departments and a member of the Defense and National Security and Government and Regulatory Litigation Practice Groups.



Photo from left: Kaitlin Thompson '11, Elk River; Jacob Carney-Ubl '11, Hinckley; Christina Osthus '09, Eagan; David Reich '10 Hutchinson; Rachel Brand '95, Sam Young '11, Minnetonka; Elisia Drewelow '11, Clinton



# Class Notes

compiled by Adam Thurber '09, St. Paul

## Class of '64

**Roger and Sharon Trollier Derby**, Norcross, welcomed granddaughter Abby Jo Solemsaas in April 2008.

**David Graffunder** retired after 30 years with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Contact him at [davegraffunder@aim.com](mailto:davegraffunder@aim.com).

## Class of '67

**Al Doty** and wife Donna were busy with Al's successful campaign for a second term as Minnesota State Representative for District 12B.

**Michael Larson** released *Nature's Christmas Story*, his fourth children's book.

## Class of '69

**Gary Henke**, Hutchinson, passed away in August 2007.

## Class of '70

**Larry Voorhees** has been the director of NASA's Postdoctoral Program since October 2005. About 160 postdocs are located at NASA Centers in the United States. If you know of anyone who may be interested in a NASA postdoctoral fellowship, visit the NASA postdoctoral program: [nasa.orau.org/postdoc](http://nasa.orau.org/postdoc).

## Class of '71

**Steve Ray** retired in June 2008 after thirty years of federal government service including nine years as a U.S. Navy nuclear submarine officer and twenty-one years as a Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) resident inspector. He spent six years as the senior resident inspector at the Monticello Nuclear Plant and six years as the senior resident inspector at the Prairie Island Nuclear Plant, both in Minnesota. Between the Navy and the NRC, he worked for six years as a reactor operator instructor for Westinghouse. He plans to live with wife Linda in Monticello.

## Class of '72

**Marce Jost** is the vice president of operations at Smart Group Consulting, LLC in Chanhassen.

## Class of '73

**Robert Lauinger**, Starbuck, passed away in April 2008.



**Steve Dornburg '77** dropped by the Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving last summer to look up an old classmate and to visit with Carla Riley, director.

## Class of '74

**Ray Strand** presented an exhibition of his art furniture, titled "Poetic Functionalism," at the Prairie Renaissance Cultural Alliance Gallery in Morris in August 2008.

## Class of '75

**Mary Martin** and **Dean Kalmoe** traveled to Beijing in August 2008 to watch their daughter, Megan Kalmoe, compete in the summer Olympic games. Megan and rowing partner Ellen Tomek represented the United States in the women's double sculls event. Mary and Dean are proud parents of 2008 UMM graduate Ryan Kalmoe.

## Class of '77

**Gail Rixen**, Puposky, published her third poetry collection, *Living on Dew*.

## Class of '78

**Debra Eads** and Joel Gottlieb were married in Sioux City, Iowa, in April 2008. Debra is a window covering specialist at JCPenney.

**Omar Ibrahim Metaweh** was nominated for an ENny award and performed his original music at the Sugden Theatre in Olde Naples in August 2008. He is a founding/charter member of the UMM contemporary jazz ensemble. He has written more than 120 musical compositions and composed three books: *Music from Minneapolis & Heliopolis*, *Write Past the Future*, and *Family Matters*. Contact him at [mariasuzy@hotmail.com](mailto:mariasuzy@hotmail.com).

**Randy Thielke** received the MnDACA Direct Service Award of Excellence. Thielke has been a staff member of the Stevens County Developmental Achievement Center for nine years.

## Class of '80

**Patrice Carlson Meschke** is the music director at Peace Presbyterian Church in St. Louis Park and the owner of REJOICE Music selling choral music and related items. She fondly remembers the music program at UMM and accompanying choirs, vocal and instrumental juries, opera workshops, vocal lessons, etc.



**Sharon Stewart Reeves '68** (right) enjoyed discussing UMM history with **Sue Granger '80** during her summer campus visit.



**Jill Blashack** was honored by the *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal* as an industry leader in its July 2008 Women in Business special publication.

#### Class of '82

**Steve Jerve** is chief meteorologist for Tampa Bay news channel 8. He has worked at stations in Austin, Minnesota; Jackson, Mississippi; and Orlando, Florida. In 1996, he won an Emmy Award while working in St. Louis, Missouri.

**Scott Peter Streed**, Ortonville, passed away in February 2008.

#### Class of '83

**Lorie Gildea**, a Minnesota Supreme Court associate justice, was the keynote speaker at the ribbon cutting for Beltrami County's new County Judicial Center in July 2008.

**Linda Hallauer LaCoursiere**, lives in Inver Grove Heights with husband Robert and son Michael (13). She is a paraprofessional working with special needs students at Thomas Lake Elementary in Eagan.

#### Class of '84

**Bruce Klopffleisch** and **Kathryn Gonier Klopffleisch '92** teach at Alexandria Technical College. Bruce is an instructor of political science, while Kathryn is an instructor of English.



**Linda Kinney '84**, vice president of business development at IHS Energy in Houston, Texas, attended a business meeting in July 2008 in Calgary, Alberta. Linda (left) and her children, Jack (6) and Emily (4), visited the Calgary Stampede with Kelly O'Brien Weger '85 (center) and daughter Jennifer (7, far right). A vacation through the Canadian Rockies and to Kelly's home in Revelstoke, British Columbia, was enjoyed by all.



**Jonathan Bringewatt '09**, St. Paul, (right) explored the field of law and the realm of public service during a summer internship with Judge Carol Eckersen '80 (left). A highlight of his experience was meeting Associate Justice Lorie Skjervén Gildea '83, Minnesota Supreme Court (center).

#### Class of '85

**Andy Weaver** was recognized by the Brown's Creek Watershed District as the 2008 Conservationist of the Year. He teaches biology at Stillwater Area High School.

#### Class of '89

**Tom Kill** received a master of science in manufacturing systems from the University of St. Thomas in May 2008. He is an engineer with Mate Precision Tooling in Ramsey.

**Julie Ann Nevill** performed several roles in *Metamorphoses* with Theatre Pro Rata in St. Paul, and *5 Fifths of Romeo & Juliet* with Commedia Beauregard in Minneapolis. Last summer, she performed in *Collected Stories*, *Barefoot in the Park*, *The Ice Fishing Play*, and *Verdict* at Acadia Repertory Theatre in Maine.

#### Class of '90

**Andrew Svec** is the director of communications, public relations, and marketing at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. He previously worked for the Crookston campus for 14 years through 2004. Since that time, he served as director of marketing for the Washington Pavillion of Arts and Science in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and as assistant to the executive director of the Community Surface Dynamics Modeling System.

**Mitch Thompson** is assistant vice president and business banker at the Woodbury branch of Bremer Bank. He previously worked at First National Bank in Hudson, Wisconsin. He is a member of the Woodbury Chamber of Commerce and a board member for the Southeast Area YMCA.

**Daryn Toso** and **Nicollé Braaten Toso '91** moved a few miles outside of Fergus Falls to a lake home and are enjoying life. They are busy with work and their two boys are involved in sports year around. They would love to hear from others and would welcome visitors. Contact them at [dtoso@yahoo.com](mailto:dtoso@yahoo.com).



### Class of '91

**Tammy Larsen Smith** began studies at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign during summer 2008 session and will complete the remainder of the program through LEEP online.

**Julie Vander Louw Gunther** and husband Steve live in Hudson, Wisconsin, with their dog and two cats. Julie works in accounting for a re-insurance broker in Bloomington and owns Creature Comforts Animal Massage. Her husband is a customs broker for Fed Ex. She would love to hear from old friends and classmates. Contact her at [jagwise@yahoo.com](mailto:jagwise@yahoo.com).

**Ann Klein Fritz** writes: "**Greg Fritz '90** (UMMer for two years before transferring to UMTC) and I live in Bismarck, North Dakota, and have three kids. I'm working part-time at the North Dakota Department of Health-Division of Water Quality, where I am the GIS coordinator. I'm adding a new gig this fall teaching a GIS course at Bismarck State College. Greg is a hospital pharmacist at Medcenter One Hospital. And yes, Carl Lipke, we WERE surprised to see you were in Divinity School! Miracles do happen (ha ha)! Nice to read about friends and colleagues."

### Class of '92

**Cindy Mueller Buyert** and Myron Buyert, Clear Lake, South Dakota, welcomed second son Jacob in March 2008. Their life has been busy and fun keeping up with Jacob and first son Matthew. Contact her at [c\\_buyert@hotmail.com](mailto:c_buyert@hotmail.com).

**Katie Holley-Carlson** writes: "Husband Dan and I live in St. Paul and have two wonderful boys—Conner (4) and Collin (6 mos.). They keep us busy. On the side, I manage a primary care clinic in Eagan for Fairview. Life is good!"

**Amanda Graunke Taylor** writes: "Gary and I had a son born in June 2007, Alex Michael Taylor. We live in Columbia, Missouri. I am a stay-at-home mom, and I'm also working on a master of science in school and agency counseling. My e-mail is [agtaylor@mchsi.com](mailto:agtaylor@mchsi.com)."



**Brian Solvie '91, Amy Doll-Wohlers '90 and Donnie Wohlers** participated in the Cougar Golf Outing in July 2008.

## Lindbloom '91 receives statewide honor

by Natalie Johnson '11, Wichita, Kansas

The Minnesota Academy of Physician Assistants (PA) honored Peter Lindbloom '91 with the 2008 PA of the Year Award. Lindbloom graduated from the Physician Assistant Program at Augsburg College in Minneapolis and the Master of Emergency Medicine Physician Assistant Program at the University of Nebraska in Omaha.



### EMT program instrumental in career

Graduating with a bachelor of arts in French, Lindbloom made a complete change in career plans from international business to emergency medicine after participating in the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Ambulance Program through Stevens Community Medical

Center (SCMC). He says the experience was "instrumental in fueling my burning desire to go into the field of medicine."

Lindbloom states: "UMM taught me how to be a lifelong student, which suits me well in the ever-changing field of medicine." He completes one hundred hours of continuing medical education every two years and a recertification exam every six years to maintain his license to practice medicine under the supervision of a licensed physician and to advance his expertise in emergency medicine.

Lindbloom was a member of the Sports Medicine Club. During his freshman year, a PA guest speaker sparked Lindbloom's interest in the profession. He helped organize medical coverage as co-chair of the Tinman Triathlon. Through independent studies and under the direction of Van Gooch, professor of biology, Lindbloom and a handful of fellow students were the first to study a cadaver on the Morris campus. He also was active in Campus Crusade for Christ.

### Serving community and the State of Minnesota

Lindbloom works at Mille Lacs Health Systems (MLHS) where he helped create major change. He recruited more PAs, allowing MLHS to staff the emergency department 24/7. The Disaster Committee chair, he shares: "We implemented an emergency ultra-sonography program for rapid diagnosis of specific life-threatening injuries and illness, thereby expediting patient treatment and/or transfer to a higher level facility."

The Minnesota Commissioner of Health appointed Lindbloom to serve as the PA representative to the State Trauma Advisory Council, and MLHS recognized his achievements and excellence in his field by honoring him with the 2007 St. Francis Award.

**Photo: Dave Barlow, president of the MAPA, and Peter Lindbloom '91, PA of the Year Award recipient**



**Alan Mills** was appointed director of bands at Colorado State University–Pueblo and moved to Pueblo, Colorado, this past summer. He, wife Amy, and daughters Amber (2) and Alana (5 mos.) look forward to the new adventure and to hearing from you. Contact him at [awmills@yahoo.com](mailto:awmills@yahoo.com).

#### Class of '93

**Mike Suman**, Vail, Colorado, was inducted into the Worthington High School 2008 Sports Hall of Fame.

**Amy Peper Carlson** and her husband are settled in Scandia. She is working for Buell Consulting in St. Paul. She looks forward to hearing from old friends. Contact her at [amy.carlson@mac.com](mailto:amy.carlson@mac.com).

**Ann Michels** reprised her breakout stage role of the androgynous character Yitzhak, a role first played in 2002 for the Outward Spiral Theatre, for Joel Sass' production of *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* at the Jungle Theatre. She and **Jeff Engholm '95** performed at the "Bridge Over Troubled Water" benefit concert in Minneapolis in August 2008.

#### Class of '94

**Thomas Worden** has been looking for classmates. He transferred from Southwest Minnesota State University and took classes in English, computer science, and chemistry. Contact him at [thomas50w@yahoo.com](mailto:thomas50w@yahoo.com).

**Suzanne Storck Meyer** lives near New Prague with husband George and their two sons. She is in her fifth year of working for Wells Fargo bank. She would love to catch up with old Morris friends. Contact her at [suzy824@frontiernet.net](mailto:suzy824@frontiernet.net).

**Holly Schuetzler Frederickson** writes: "After living nearly 10 years near Richmond, Virginia, husband Marvin and I uprooted our family and are making a new home in the last frontier—Alaska. We love it here and are enjoying the adventure! We are temporarily living in a log cabin until we can settle somewhere a little more permanent. I would love to hear from old friends!"

**Cathy Crea** is teaching reading and study skills at Century Community and Technical College in White Bear Lake and is enjoying the college environment. When she's not teaching, she spends time volunteering in her kids' schools. Owen is in sixth grade. Eleanor is in third grade, and Avery is in first grade.

#### Class of '95

**Paul Schuldt** and **Jennifer Ulrich Schuldt** write: "We've been living in Stillwater for about a year after returning from Pennsylvania where Jen was on internship for graduate school. We would love to hear from old classmates! Mary and Bob? Kelsey and Bill? Are you out there... anyone? Our e-mail address is [pjschuldt@netzero.net](mailto:pjschuldt@netzero.net)."

**Andrew Jopling** lives in Robbinsdale with wife Anna Bowlds-Perkins. He has four step-daughters and eleven step-grandchildren who keep him busy.

**Onika Nicole Craven** started her own production company.



**Wendy Webster '97, Darcy Carlson '97, Brigid Tuck '97** attended the UMM at the St. Paul Saints event in July 2008.

#### Class of '96

**Richard Ventura** and **Maureen Marsollek Ventura '98**, Cottage Grove, got a new addition to their family—Bella, an English bulldog. Rich finished a master in business administration at Hamline University last spring and is finally able to enjoy a summer without studying for class. Maureen will start her final semester at William Mitchell College of Law. She works at a law firm in West St. Paul. Contact them at [richventura@comcast.net](mailto:richventura@comcast.net).

#### Class of '97

**Stacy Hill** graduated from Luther Seminary with a master of divinity degree. She received a call to be pastor of Christ the King Lutheran Church in Bentonville, Arizona. She is super excited (and a little scared) to move to Arizona and start working again!

**Matthew Craig** is a marketing specialist for H+L Architecture in Denver, Colorado, a new position as of May 2008. He leads marketing and public relations efforts for H+L's education and science/technology/corporate practice areas.

**Jennifer Furan**, St. Paul, finished law school at Hamline in December 2007 and passed the bar exam in February 2008. She has been with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota for 10 years, where she recently accepted a position as policy counsel in the policy and legislative affairs area. She is rediscovering what it means to have a social life now that school is done.

**Karl Manske's** daughter, Ava, is two. Wife **Dawn Busch '97** accepted a position with Polaris Industries in Wyoming, Minnesota.

#### Class of '98

**Sara Carstensen** writes: "Hello UMM! I'm here in Rapid City, South Dakota. I own a really cool customized T-shirt business and am the senior account executive with a really great station! I'm married with kids... a sweet baby boy, Bae Liam Okello, born August 2007, and fabulous daughter Serena (7)! All friends from UMM, please write me. I would love to hear from you all!" Contact her at [taniqua8@gmail.com](mailto:taniqua8@gmail.com).



**Laura Kelnhofer**, Richfield, and Anthony Calbone married in July 2008. Laura will celebrate her 10-year anniversary at the Best Buy Corporate Office this year. She works in the Retail Learning and Development Department. Anthony is a development engineer at Seagate in Shakopee.

**Erin Thomas Folkins** and husband Eric live in Victoria. Erin met Eric while teaching in Orange County, California. They married in 2000 and recently relocated to Minnesota with son Evan (2). Erin earned a master of education in 2005. She taught in the Garden Grove School District for eight years and now works part-time. Contact her at [erintfolkins@hotmail.com](mailto:erintfolkins@hotmail.com).

**Rob Rogholt** and **Jennifer Yeutter Rogholt** write: "We live in Fergus Falls and have two daughters, Elise Anne (3 1/2) and Olivia Rose (2 mos.). Rob does CADD drafting. Jen manages a senior housing complex. We are thrilled to be in Fergus close to family. Also, Morris is only an hour away so when the girls go there... we will be close by!"

**Christina Larson** made her first visit to Japan this summer for an aikido competition and loved it! She will definitely be traveling to Japan again in fall 2009. Christina is happily employed as a veterinarian for all creatures great and small (from mice to emus to cows). She has taken up sailing on Lake Minnetonka and loves bicycling around Minneapolis.

**Melanie Foster** writes: "It has been a great year. I am a personal chef, operating in and around Blaine, and have started offering private cooking classes for groups in their homes. Check me out at [mjcooks.com](http://mjcooks.com) and my food blog from the link on the Web site. Husband Joe survived his company's (Navisite in Minneapolis) take-over, and the changes that followed. Our boys started first grade (Mason) and preschool (Adrian) this fall. I've been staying home with them thus far, and now I will have some more time for my business. E-mail me at [Melanie@mjcooks.com](mailto:Melanie@mjcooks.com)."

#### Class of '99

**Shaun McNally**, Chokio, works with the Stevens County Soil and Water Conservation District to monitor and help design methods to help restore the Pomme de Terre River to full health.

**Sylvia Anderson**, Los Angeles, California, is pursuing her acting career and serving as director of copywriting for a health-based company. Contact her at [sylly28@hotmail.com](mailto:sylly28@hotmail.com).

**Lisa Lande Brown** teaches fourth grade in New Ulm. She and her husband welcomed baby Everett John in June 2008. Everett joins sister Claire (3).

**Tory Brown** writes: "Life has a funny way of pushing you in a totally different direction than you've planned. I'm an independent agent for AFLAC, which is a far cry from CSci that I studied with the Lopezes and Lewandowski! I have fond memories of life in the apartments, working for the info desk, and dining at Turtle Mountain Cafe. Anyone who remembers me can e-mail me at [tory@tory-brown.com](mailto:tory@tory-brown.com)!!"

**Kari Pantekoek** graduated from the Department of Speech, Language, Hearing Sciences at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities in May 2008 and works for Minneapolis Public Schools.

#### Class of '00

**Naomi Prechel Downer**, Richmond, Virginia, and husband John welcomed son Brennan in December 2007. Contact her at [ruth1\\_16and17@yahoo.com](mailto:ruth1_16and17@yahoo.com).

#### Class of '01

**Lori Buchheim** and Chad Luze, Marshall, married in April 2008, at the Huntimer Church in Colton.

**Andre J. Chouravong** and Heather Dawn married in February 2008. Andre works for West Professional Development of Thomson Reuters in Eagan as a content production editor.

**Scott Newberg** writes: "Son Soren turned one in August 2008. Wife Solveig and I are blessed with his presence." Anyone passing through the Willmar area is encouraged to look them up.

**Lesley Williams Patterson**, husband Wes, and daughter Gwyneth are moving to Belfast, Northern Ireland, to intern at the Belfast City Vineyard Church. Keep up with them and their adventures on their blogs: [www.pattersonpost.blogspot.com](http://www.pattersonpost.blogspot.com) and [www.thepattersonplant.blogspot.com](http://www.thepattersonplant.blogspot.com).

#### Class of '02

**Anna Harren Adl** married Mohamed Adl in June 2008. They reside in Franklin. Anna is a special education teacher at Cudahy Public Schools.



**David Fluegel '97** visited with artist **Mark Knierim**, a contributor to the Studio Art Alumni Exhibition, at the opening reception held during Homecoming in October 2008. Fluegel is a community program specialist in the Center for Small Towns at UMM. Knierim is coordinator of the Art Department at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.





UMMers including Kathleen Ellis '04, Caitlin Boyd '03, and Monica Haynes '04 watched the Minnesota Twins win against the Chicago White Sox in September 2008.

**Michael Scherwin** moved to Grand Junction, Colorado, in June 2008, to start a new position as executive director of the Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra.

**Jessica Attwood Hirsch**, Minneapolis, and Adam Hirsch married in St. Paul at the Landmark Center in January 2008. Jessica is a bioethicist within the Office of Human Research Protection at Capella University. Adam is an architectural intern at Adsit Architecture and Planning.

**Abbie Merrill Ensrud** writes: "Josh and I are doing well. We have a daughter, Alexandra (20 mos.). We often wonder what we did to fill our time before she came along. I'm working as an adult services social worker for human services. Josh is a special education teacher at Elmore Academy, a correctional facility for youth. Hope everyone is doing well!"

#### Class of '03

**Paul Buzinec** and **Elicia Kouba Buzinec** married in April 2004. They welcomed their first child, Emma, in July 2007. Paul is a senior research analyst for Ingenix in Eden Prairie. Elicia is a science teacher for Woodbury High School.

**Send us your Class Notes!**  
**Your friends are waiting to hear from you!**

Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving  
UMM 123 HFA • 600 East Fourth Street • Morris, MN 56267  
alumni@morris.umn.edu  
morris.umn.edu/AlumniUpdate

Next Class Notes deadline: **January 16, 2008**

**Jolaine M. Jennissen** graduated in May 2008 from St. John's University School of Theology and Seminary with a master of arts in pastoral ministry. She lives and works in the Twin Cities.

**Eric Steinhoff** and **Danielle Stuard Steinhoff '05** married in St. Paul in March 2008.

#### Class of '04

**Nathan Anderson** lives in Chicago, where he enjoys being an active member of the Chicago Inner Circle footbag club, as well as being a sell out.

**Gina Westlund Lund** and Jeremy Lund welcomed their first child, Kayla Elinor, in April 2008.

**Tony Calvin** passed away in July 2008.

**Christopher Bevers** and **Wendy O'Connell '06**, Fergus Falls, married in August 2005 and welcomed Jackson Christopher Bevers in February 2008. Weighing six pounds, two ounces, twenty inches long, their first child is a future Cougar football player.

**Jessica Zepeda Argetsinger**, Stillwater, welcomed a baby boy in September 2007. She teaches fourth grade.

#### Class of '05

**Tony Streng**, Lanesboro, performed in the St. Mane Theatre's production of *Five Flowers* in March 2008. He is choral director at Lanesboro High School.

**Jackie Thrasher Koppel** and husband Matt welcomed their first baby, Aaron Matthew, in May 2008. He was eight pounds, three ounces and twenty-two inches long.

**Brittany Thurber McBeath** and **Bradley McBeath '04** married in 2007.

#### Class of '06

**Emily Whebbe** works for Sundays Energy, a co-op that helps businesses going "green."

**Amity Schneider** is a sexual assault and general crime advocate for Someplace Safe. She also works with schools and presents to civic and other groups.

#### Class of '08

**Ruth Olson** started her first year of medical school at the University of Minnesota, Duluth.

#### Faculty and staff

**James O. Pederson**, Coon Rapids, formerly a UMM painter, passed away in June 2008.

**Mavis Felix Drange Hamilton Jaynes** passed away in June 2008. She was the UMM assistant registrar for 18 years.



## Cougars mark passing of Leif Lie, retired coach

In June 2008, University of Minnesota, Morris athletics marked the passing of an early figure in UMM's athletic history—wrestling coach Leif Haakon Lie.



Lie

A 1940 University of Minnesota graduate, Lie coached wrestling at the University Farm School in St. Paul, at the West Central School of Agriculture on the Morris campus, and at the University of Minnesota, Morris. He retired in 1972. The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) awarded Lie a 25-year Distinguished Service Award.

**Photo: Leif Lie, Cougar wrestling coach, from the 1968 UMM *Venture* yearbook**



## Cougar football supporters enjoy golf outing

The Friends of Cougar Football Golf Outing was held in July 2008 at the Pomme de Terre Golf Course in Morris.

"About 120 friends of Cougar football come back for the event this year," shares Coach Todd Hickman. "I would like to thank everyone again for a great day of golf and socializing. Congrats to the team of Al Doering '82, John Rice '81, Tom Koch '83, Steve Miller '85, and Gary Frogner '79 who won the event this year. A special thanks to Pomme De Terre Golf Club, Old No. 1, and Ribsy Petermeier for helping make the day a success.

**Photo: Cougar Football Golf Outing participants Kari Bunjer '98, Jana Koehler '00, Brian Koehler, and Larry Bunjer**

## Athletics update

—Mark Fohl, director of intercollegiate athletics



Two new coaches joined the athletic staff this year. Eli Starzl is the new assistant men's basketball coach and head coach for men's and women's tennis. He comes to UMM from Southwest Minnesota State University, where he played collegiate basketball and served as a graduate assistant basketball coach.

Chad Braegelmann '00 is the new head volleyball coach and coordinator of intramurals. Chad served as a student assistant volleyball coach while at UMM. He comes to UMM from Colby-Sawyer College, where he was a highly successful head coach whose teams won several conference championships and appeared in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Tournament.

Heather Pennie, who has served as both head volleyball and softball coach, will continue as head softball coach and serve as assistant volleyball coach. This new coaching arrangement satisfies UMM's longtime goal to lighten Heather's coaching responsibilities from two head coaching positions to one. The resignation of Corey Phelps, former intramural coordinator and assistant volleyball coach, created the opportunity to make the change.

The Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC) moved forward with a couple of substantial changes last summer. After a national search, Corey Borchardt was hired as the first full-time UMAC commissioner, and North Central University, Minneapolis, has joined UMAC as an associate member in individual sports. These are all positive steps as we move toward affiliated conference status and automatic qualification of conference champions into NCAA III regional tournaments.

## Chad Braegelmann '00 serves as new Cougar head volleyball coach

Chad Braegelmann '00 has returned to the UMM community to serve as head Cougar women's volleyball coach and campus intramural coordinator.

"I am excited to return to my alma mater," states Braegelmann. "My wife, Natalie, also a 2000 UMM grad, and I enjoyed our time in New England, but the chance to come back to Morris and coach a team that we are passionate about was too good an opportunity to pass up. I am eagerly awaiting the challenge of leading the team to the UMAC tournament and competing for a UMAC championship in the near future."



Braegelmann

In seven seasons, Braegelmann compiled a 54-9 conference record as head women's volleyball coach at Colby-Sawyer College in New London, New Hampshire, winning two conference championships and twice advancing to the NCAA Division III National Tournament. He is a two-time recipient of Commonwealth Coast Conference Coach of the Year honors.

Mark Fohl, director of intercollegiate athletics, states: "Chad's had great success at Colby-Sawyer, and we're looking for that to continue here at UMM."

Braegelmann received a bachelor of arts in management with an area of concentration in sports management. He earned a master of education with an emphasis in health, physical education, and coaching from Northern State University.





## Koopman '78 and Cordes '94 inducted into Cougar Hall of Fame

Carol Koopman '78 and Jason Cordes '95 were inducted into the Cougar Hall of Fame during the UMM Alumni Association Banquet in October 2008. Mark Fohl, director of athletics, presented the awards on behalf of the Cougar Hall of Fame committee.

### Carol Koopman '78, volleyball, track, and basketball

Koopman, a political science and physical education major, competed in volleyball, track, and basketball. Tallying 25, she holds the record for the most rebounds in a single game. Sharing the honor with Cindy Lonneman '83, she holds the season average record for most points per game and holds the third spot in career rebounding. Koopman's career scoring total places her in the top 10 in Cougar women's basketball history. She also competed in the shot put and javelin in two North Central Athletic Association (NCAA) field and track meets.

After graduation, Koopman played pro-basketball for the Minnesota Fillies and the Milwaukee Does.

Surrounded by family members, Koopman graciously accepted the award from Fohl, expressing her appreciation for the unexpected honor, and thanking God and her parents for making possible the "truly wonderful days at UMM." She also thanked her five brothers for allowing her to play basketball with them in her family's pole barn during a time when girls sports didn't exist.

Koopman reminisced about her introduction to Cougar athletics. A member of the Girls Athletic Association during high school, she joined an intramural team as a new UMM freshman and her talent was revealed. Encouraged to try out for the varsity team, she refused to do so unless friend Mary Winter Seim '78 tried out, too, which she did.

She credited former coaches Connie Edlund and Sandy Glas with skill development, and wryly recalled former coach Rich Glas' contributions: "He was teaching a basketball class on the far end of the gym while I was shooting on the other end. I heard him say, 'Now class, that is how not to shoot a basketball.'" Koopman explained that she had a very flat shot, the result of shooting through barn rafters for many years.

In closing, Koopman thanked UMM for the great education she received that made possible a successful career as a computer programmer with U.S. Bank. She makes her home in Milwaukee.

**Photo above: Mark Fohl and Carol Koopman '78**

### Jason Cordes '94, basketball and baseball

A computer science major, Cordes competed in baseball and basketball. He places in the top 10 scorers in men's basketball history. He holds several 3-point records: the most attempts, 243, in one season; the most successful, 107, in a season; and a career total of 268. With 9, he shares the record for most 3-points made during a game with James Mullady '94.

Cordes played during two record-setting seasons for two Cougar teams. The 1993-94 basketball team set a school record with 25 wins and advanced to the NCAA Elite Eight. The 1995 baseball team set a school record with 21 wins. Cordes also received NCAA Academic All-American honors.

During his remarks, Cordes recalled former coach Perry Ford stopping practice after he passed the ball instead of taking an open shot during a drill. "I've often wondered if Coach regretted telling me to 'shoot the ball.' After that, I put up more than 400 3-pointers," shared Cordes.

Cutting down the net at the National Intercollegiate Athletics Conference tournament, three bus loads of "crazed fans" at a Winona State game; and "knocking off Duluth, an arch rival," were Cougar highlights for Cordes. He noted that all of these memories are possible because of shared accomplishments with teammates.

A MTS software engineer, Cordes thanked professors Dian and Andy Lopez, professors emeriti of computer science, for their positive influence on his career. He thanked former coaches, including Fohl, for keeping him motivated, and the people of Morris and the campus for their support. He also thank his parents, who were present, for making their "number one priority" their children.

Cordes makes his home in Shakopee with wife Beth Ploof Cordes '94, a standout volleyball athlete whose work-study position was keeping men's basketball stats and, shares a smiling Cordes, who broke Coach's rule not date his players.

**Photo above: Beth Ploof Cordes '94 and Jason Cordes '95**



## Alumni visit Verne “Chan” Chandler, retired football equipment manager

Murray Anderson '79, Pat Popowski '74, and Jim Hiedeman '72 share at least three things in common. They are brothers-in-law married to the “three Christianson sisters from Canby:” Kaye, Nancy Jo, and Cynthia '87, respectively. They all played Cougar football, and they share a fondness for Verne “Chan” Chandler, equipment manager during their UMM days.

Last spring, the three couples traveled to Arizona. They called Chan, but didn't give their names, telling him he'd have to wait to see who his Cougar visitors would be. “Chan was at the door when we arrived,” shares Hiedeman. “He just celebrated his 90th birthday, but he was as sharp and witty as we remember him.” Many stories were told that afternoon. “We had a great laugh when he remembered sewing my pant legs shut during practice, recalls Anderson. Adds Hiedeman: “It was really funny in the locker room watching Murray try to get his legs in those pants.”

The alumni state that Chan was more than an equipment manager. “He was like a second father to me,” reflects Anderson. Hiedeman adds: “Chan was the laughter and relief we needed after



From left: Pat Popowski '74, Verne “Chan” Chandler, Jim Hiedeman '72, and Murray Anderson '79

a hard day on the practice field or a tough battle with an opponent. Chan and his wife, Marge, were our ‘Cougar parents.’ They worked hard and had fun at the same time. Real Cougar Pride.”

## Men's soccer team explores Brazil, its culture, and its fútbol

Last summer, the Cougar men's soccer team experienced a country where “fútbol” is the first word on a child's lips. They traveled 5,000 miles to immerse themselves in Brazilian culture and to play soccer with anyone at any opportunity.

In addition to soccer drills and practices, the students experienced many aspects of life in Brazil. They visited a Portuguese fort built when the city of Natal was founded in the 1500s and played soccer with locals on the beach in the early morning hours. They drove dune buggies

in the Natal streets and around the lakes.

One of the most meaningful moments was a visit to an orphanage. They brought clothes and toys for the children, ages 2-17, and soccer balls—the most prized gift. The orphanage visit was “inspiring,” states Tyler Simpson '11, Broomfield, Colorado. It “made me a better person. I don't take things for granted as much. Every time I think I need something, I think about how the orphans would give anything to have something of mine, because they own so few possessions.”

Coach Scott Turnbull shares: “All of those abandoned kids with basically nothing living happily together made me really appreciate all I had growing up as a child and what I have today.”

For Kevin Daly '11, St. Cloud, playing preliminary games in the Natal stadiums before the professional team competitions was the highlight of his soccer career. And, he says, lessons learned on the field will affect his day-to-day life: “To get the results you want, you need to be willing to dedicate the time and make the sacrifices that are necessary until you get it right.”

Simpson believes the team has become a more “cohesive unit” because of the shared experience. He says: “Our team chemistry has increased.”

Chris Blahna '11, Sartell, agrees: “We communicate better and have a lot more fun with everything we do.”

Experiencing the importance of soccer to Brazilians increased the Cougar team's love for the sport. Blahna shares that seeing soccer bringing so many people together from different aspects of life was the most meaningful part of the trip. “It can give hope to the hopeless,” he states, “and it brings meaning to people's lives.”

—Natalie Johnson '11, Wichita, Kansas



The Cougar men's soccer team visited an orphanage during their trip to Brazil.





## Presidents Club Members

The Presidents Club recognizes the University of Minnesota's most generous donors. Below are UMM Presidents Club members who have made significant gifts to the University of Minnesota, Morris. Bold names indicate new members. Italicized names honor deceased members. An asterisk denotes sustaining members with gifts of \$1,000 or more in the last fiscal year to UMM.

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The Maroon and Gold honor roll recognizes non-Presidents Club individual donors whose annual gifts to UMM total between \$1,000 and \$24,999. Thank you to donors who made this level of giving between July 1, 2007, and June 30, 2008.

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## Victor and Pam Gades '92 gift reflects UMM pride and appreciation

Pam Gades '92, instructional technology specialist in Computing Services, and husband Victor Gades frequently talked about making a financial gift to the University of Minnesota, Morris, but they couldn't decide to which program or initiative they would direct their giving. They wanted it to be special—to reflect UMM's importance in their lives. When Pam learned about the fundraising effort in honor of the retirement of Andy and Dian Lopez, professors emeriti of computer science, she literally said out loud: "That's what I want to do!" And Victor enthusiastically agreed.

Pam and Victor's gift to the Andy and Dian Lopez Scholarship supports computer science majors from under-represented groups in the field, such as women, American students of color, and international students of color. Says Pam: "Our gift honors the Lopezes, two important people in my career, and it supports students. We liked that idea."

### Versatility and flexibility

Before applying for employment at UMM, Pam worked for Microprogramming, Inc., where her responsibilities ranged from accounting, billing, and payroll to computer sales, assembly, and programming of one of the very first types of microcomputers.

That flexibility did not go unnoticed when

Andy Lopez, then director of the UMM Computer Center, interviewed her for a computer technician position in 1978.

"I think Andy was attracted to my versatility when he first hired me," remembers Pam. "And I liked Andy from the moment I walked into his office in the basement of Camden Hall," recalls Pam. "He was so warm and genuine. Andy became more than a boss to me. He was my mentor. Andy encouraged me to keep learning. Right off the bat, he prompted me to enroll in classes at UMM. Thanks to Andy, with his encouragement and support, I completed a bachelor of arts and a master's degree after that!"

*This place means a lot to both Victor and me.*

—Pam Gades '92

her years at UMM in the constantly changing field of computing.

"Change gets me excited," shares Pam. "I love it. I love to dig into new software, learn what's new, and then share with everyone else."

Pam's primary responsibilities as instructional technology specialist in Computing Services include advanced level support for computing to all students, faculty, and staff. She prepares and teaches courses and workshops for the campus community and writes training materials, instructional handouts, and Web pages. She serves as an innovative teaching consultant to the Faculty



From left: Victor and Pam Gades '92; Andy Lopez, professor emeritus of computer science; Sara Lahr '10, Sauk Centre, Andy and Dian Lopez Scholarship recipient; and Dian Lopez, professor emeritus of computer science, attended the 2008 Scholarship Jubilee. Recipient Danielle J. Schatschneider '09, Mahtomedi, was unable to attend.

Dian Lopez taught many of Pam's computer science classes. "I was in one of the first classes to take Dian's Computer Systems course," remembers Pam. "Wow! That was a tough course!"

### Curiosity and creativity

Although she completed many computer science courses, Pam majored in business economics. Marketing and management skills paired with innate curiosity and creativity have served her well throughout

Technology Bush Grant.

Throughout the years, Pam has served in various campus leadership roles including civil services representative to Campus Assembly and as a member of the Campus Resources and Planning Committee, Commission on Women, and Consultative Committee. She received the Mary Martelle Memorial Award and the Outstanding Support Staff Award recognizing her service to the University.

### Gratitude and appreciation

Pam and Victor's gift represents their gratitude and appreciation for the UMM community, "people like the Lopezes who make UMM a great place to be," and for the educational and career opportunities afforded by the University of Minnesota, Morris.

Shares Pam: "I grew up one block away from campus. UMM has been a part of my whole life. I'm proud to say I work at UMM, and I'm proud to say I am an alum. This place means a lot to both Victor and me."

Check out Pam's instructional technology blog at [blog.lib.umn.edu/pam/it/](http://blog.lib.umn.edu/pam/it/).



## Honor Roll of Donors

The University of Minnesota, Morris is pleased to recognize the many alumni who support UMM's mission by making a contribution between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008. Alumni are listed by reunion year. We gratefully acknowledge and recognize the gifts of these alumni and the families, spouses and partners they represent.

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Lloyd E. Danzeisen  
Michele A. Widder Engberg  
Robert J. Engberg  
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#### 2008 Karyn Nielson Memorial Scholarship recipients honored at Scholarship Jubilee

Royce Nielson represented his brother and sister-in-law, Gregg '70 and Judy Nielson '72, at the 2008 Scholarship Jubilee during which he had the opportunity to meet Elizabeth M. Waller '09, Lemmon, South Dakota (center) and Ashley M. Corbett '09, Forest Lake (right), 2008 recipients of the Karyn Nielson Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship was established by Gregg and Judy in memory of daughter Karyn, a UMM legacy student who died in 1993 as the result of a horse-riding accident. It is awarded to students who share Karyn's passion for community service, church activities, and volunteerism.



Karen E. Eastby Gadda  
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 Gwynne J. Gaffaney Gildow  
 Dennis A. Gimmestad  
 John L. Hanson  
 Susan D. Goldenstein Hennen  
 Bonnie J. Bryant Henningson  
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 Alan D. Hewitt  
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 Christina M. Imes Hatfield

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Miriam M. Stephan Sanguins  
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### Angela Bos receives award for dissertation

Angela Bos '01 received the 2008 University of Minnesota Graduate School Best Dissertation Award in the Social and Behavioral Sciences and Education discipline. "Stereotypes at the Gate? Gender Stereotypes and Candidate Nominations" was inspired by a 2002 political party convention Angela attended with parents Herman and Janice.

"I observed two excellent female gubernatorial candidates—Becky Lourey and Judi Dutcher—bypassed for their party's nomination," remembers Angela. "Intrigued, I interviewed those involved in the nomination, and I noticed that the process seemed to create inequalities for female candidates. My dissertation undertakes a systematic investigation of this through interviews, analysis of election data, and surveys of state political party convention delegates in five states. My parents instilled in me the value of identifying problems in the world and working to solve them. It is fitting that they were with me when my academic quest to seek solutions for women's under-representation began."

Angela's siblings, Willem Bos, Dawn Bos Van Ruler '91, and Melissa Bos Gruys '94, also attended UMM. "Melissa, now an assistant professor of management at Wright State University in Ohio, was a huge inspiration," shares Angela. "She encouraged me to start doing research as a freshman and has been a major mentor for me throughout UMM, graduate school, and now in my academic job." Bos is an assistant professor at Wooster College in Ohio.

Completing two UMM Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program studies, Angela identifies adviser Paula O'Loughlin, associate professor of political science, as a key person in her UMM career. "She was the person who first mentored me as a researcher," states Angela. "And, she continues to be an important source of advice. I hope to someday establish myself as the type of teacher-scholar she exemplifies."

In 2001, Janice and Herman established the Bos Undergraduate Research Awards at UMM which provide financial support to students pursuing research opportunities.

**Photo: Angela Bos '01 with parents Janice and Herman Bos at the 2008 University of Minnesota Graduate School Best Dissertation Award reception**



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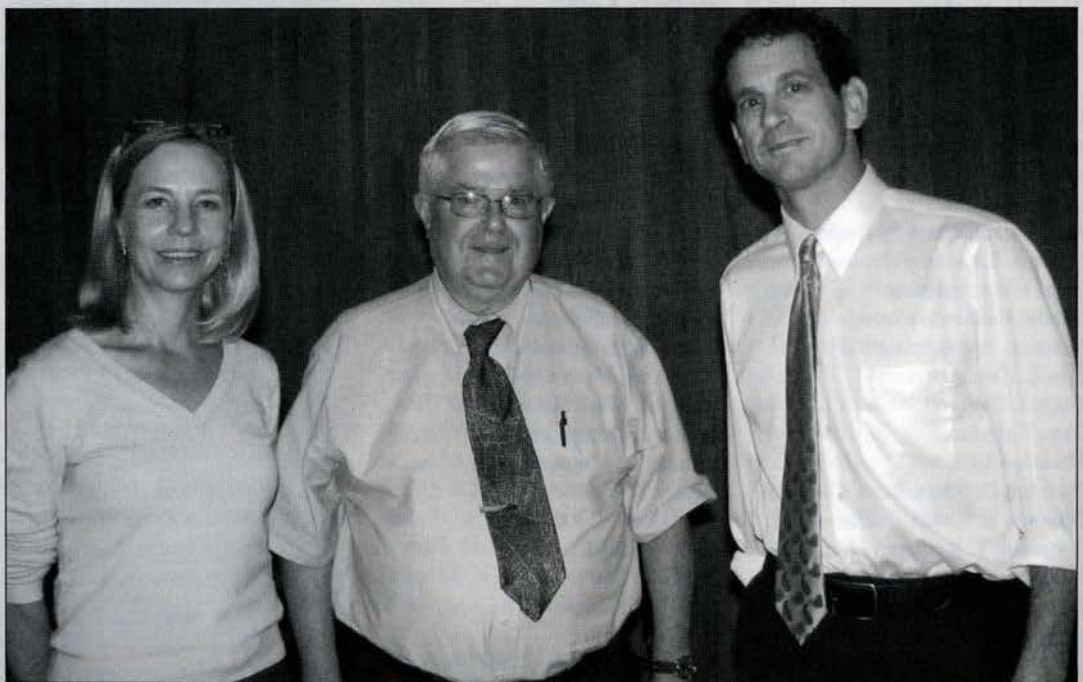
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#### 2008 Barber lecturers explore literature and democratic engagement

Dana Nelson, the Gertrude Conaway Professor of English at Vanderbilt University (left) and Russ Castronovo, the Jean Wall Bennet Professor of English and American Studies at the University of Wisconsin, Madison (right) gave the 2008 Barber Lecture in September 2008. Nelson conducts research in comparative democracy theory in the Americas, and Castronovo explores the use of literature in forming critical citizenship. The annual Barber Lecture is made possible through philanthropic gifts from the late Dorothy Barber and Laird Barber, professor emeritus of English (center).

Photo by Natalie Johnson '11, Wichita, Kansas



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Romilly Jean Cassida Trust



### Romilly Jean Cassida Memorial Scholarship

The endowed Romilly Jean Cassida Memorial Scholarship was awarded for the first time for the academic year 2008-09. The scholarship was established through a bequest made by Cassida who passed away in 2006. Nancy Roles, Orrin Wilson, and Karen Wilson represented the family at the Scholarship Jubilee.

**Front row from left:** Cristina Montanez '12, El Paso, Texas; Katie E. Hubbard '12, Spicer; Nancy Roles; Abbie R. MacMillan '12, Annandale **Back row:** Joel H. Waage '12, Alexandria; Jamin J. Ivers '12, Zimmerman; Orrin Wilson; Karen Wilson; and Sarah Ranney '12, Groton, Massachusetts. **Not pictured:** Ashley M. Lucht '12, Jackson; Kaitlyn Mulcrone '12, Shakopee; and Kelsey L. Wiig '12, Columbia Heights

## Friends of LaFave House

Friends of LaFave House is a friendship group dedicated to the promotion and enjoyment of LaFave House. Donors contribute annually to support LaFave House enhancements, to build positive relationships and good will, and to raise awareness of LaFave House's purpose and attributes as a "gracious social center for special events and gatherings for the University of Minnesota, Morris and the community."

Friends of LaFave House donors between July 1, 2007, and June 30, 2008, are listed below.

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Shirley Tomlin  
Carol and Sid Wilcox



## *In memory gifts to the University of Minnesota, Morris*

The following gifts have been given in memory of a loved one as a way to celebrate their life. Any gift given to UMM can be designated in memory of a special person.

Hanley A. Aamot WCSA '46  
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### **Keskinen Family Scholarship**

Susan Keskinen represented siblings Kay, John, and Kathleen at the 2008 Scholarship Jubilee during which the inaugural awarding of the Keskinen Family Scholarship was celebrated. Given in memory of parents Lila and Ervin Keskinen of New York Mills, the siblings established the scholarship to honor their parents' commitment to education and lifelong learning. All four of the Keskinen children attended UMM in the 1960s and 1970s. By creating this scholarship, the Keskinen children hope that others may benefit from UMM educations, that the love of learning modeled by their parents will continue to flourish, and the legacy of their commitment to education will foster educational opportunities for future generations of UMM students.

**Photo: Susan Keskinen and recipients Dani Schmitz '12, Wadena, (center) and Jared A. Johnson '10, Staples (right)**

### ***West Central School of Agriculture***

Established in 1910, the University of Minnesota West Central School of Agriculture (WCSA) made its home on the Morris campus until 1963. The WCSA Alumni Association holds an all-school reunion on the UMM campus each year in July. The legacy of the WCSA continues to enrich UMM's present and its future. With thanks, we recognize WCSA alumni and friends for their support.

Gordon Allen '45  
Betty J. Norman Anderson '50  
Duane M. Anderson '55  
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Bonnie Affield Heuer '57  
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 Russell W. '48 and  
 Marilyn Kneeland  
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 Janet L. Harris Koopman '58  
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## *In honor gifts to the University of Minnesota, Morris*

The following gifts have been given in honor of a loved one. Any gift given to UMM can be designated in honor of a special person.

Amanda Albrecht '08  
 John Alden '06  
 Holly J. Bennett '08  
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 Meghan Bero '08  
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 UMM's founding faculty, staff,  
 students, and citizens of the  
 region  
 Jaclyn R. Venable '08

Sara E. Vig '08  
 Laura C. Walton '08  
 Jennifer M. Wermerskirchen '08  
 Kevin P. Whalen '08  
 Katherine M. Williams '08



### **Jentz '08 receives 2008 Frenier Award**

Ian Jentz '08, St. Cloud, received the 2008 Mimi Frenier Award in Women's Studies. Colleagues, students, alumni, friends, and the UMM Commission on Women established the award in honor of Mariam Frenier, professor emeritus of history. The award is granted to a women's studies major in recognition of high academic achievement and social, political, and civic activism.

**Photo: Frenier and Jentz**



## Briggs Library Associates

Rodney A. Briggs Library Associates organized in 2002 to bring together UMM friends who love books, enjoy cultural pursuits, and believe in supporting an important campus and regional intellectual resource. Library Associates donors between July 1, 2007, and June 30, 2008, are listed below.

Wilbert H. and Janet T. Ahern  
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Stevens County Historical Society  
Leland and La Verne Swanson  
James and Patricia A. Tanner  
James B. Togeas

## UMM's history and UMM's future inspire Helen Briggs' giving

Helen Briggs remembers well when her relationship with the University of Minnesota, Morris began. Her husband, Rodney A. Briggs, then superintendent of the West Central School of Agriculture on the Morris campus, rushed home with a question. She recalls: "Rod came home from campus early that day in March of 1959. Glowing with excitement, he asked, 'How would you like to help me start a college?'"



Briggs

In September 1960, UMM opened its doors. "And so it began," shares Helen, "this adventure that was to be the most deeply gratifying of Rod's life. His enthusiasm was infectious. He was a man of great energy, and all of it was spent on fostering this dream. Those early years were exciting, filled with warm friendships with the new young faculty who shared the dream. Rod would be thrilled by what the college has become, the excellence of its programs, and especially by the plans for energy independence for the campus."

In 1974, the campus library was named for Rodney A. Briggs who served as UMM's first chief administrator from 1960 until 1969. He passed away in 1995.

"The library is the center of any school at any level," says Helen, "and Rod was honored to have the library at UMM named for him. He valued learning and education above most things. It is a joy to be able to donate to the library at UMM."

## Senior Legacy Program 2008

Inaugurated by the Class of 2007, Senior Legacy is a program run by seniors for seniors, celebrating student experiences and accomplishments and working together to leave a permanent legacy to benefit current and future UMM students, the campus, and the community. By contributing to the class gift and by serving on the committee, students build class spirit and set an example for alumni and students. Each gift contributed helps set a higher giving goal for graduating classes in the future. Thank you to donors who made Senior Legacy gifts between July 1, 2007, and June 30, 2008.

Anonymous  
Kathleen M. and  
Thomas L. Albrecht  
Debra Bennett  
Alaina L. Benson '08  
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Karen E. Berg-Moberg  
Patrick and Traci Bero  
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Lauren R. Trapp '08  
Vickie and Thomas W. Vail  
Patrick G. Van Zandt  
Rosie and Winston W. Venable  
Guy and Kara Vig  
Judith A. and Patrick J. Whalen  
Nicole R. Wiebold '08  
Gary A. and Mary M. Williams  
Benjamin S. Winchester '95



## Cougar Honor Roll of Donors

With thanks we acknowledge the following businesses, foundations, and individuals who designated UMM gifts between July 1, 2007, and June 30, 2008, to programs and funds that benefit Cougar student athletes:

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 Beth A. '88 and James F. Mahoney '85  
 Shaun D. '02 and Monica J. Maloney '02  
 Mark L. Fisher Group



### Cougar Fest 2008

The fans cheered and the Cougar football team beat Trinity Bible College during Cougar Fest 2008. The annual event held in conjunction with the first home game of the football season includes youth football games, traditional tailgating, and fun activities for all ages.



Dennis G. Marso '92  
 Gina L. and Paul W. Martin  
 Gregory L. Martin '87  
 Shane D. Martin '97  
 Sarah J. and Paul D. Mattson  
 Kathy L. Maynard  
 Gary L. '68 and Clarice A. Arnold McGrath  
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 Brian J. Petermeier '84  
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 Theodore P. Van Erp '87  
 Thomas M. Van Erp '89  
 Ryan M. '99 and Tracey L. Viergutz

Gary and Linda Visto  
 Michelle M. Henry '94 and Jeffery H. Voit '94  
 Camron M. Vollbrecht '99  
 David A. and Nancy A. Walter  
 Paul R. Watzke '76  
 Arnold E. Weber  
 John W. Weiler '70  
 Wells Fargo Foundation  
 Christopher D. Wente '92  
 West Central Environmental Consultants Inc.  
 James M. Williamson '88  
 Mark K. Williamson '73  
 Willie's Super Valu  
 Leslie E. '67 (WCSA '63) and  
 Maxine A. Mattson Wolff '67  
 Larry A. and Diane Zavadil  
 Sandra K. and Duane Zeltwanger

## Cougar football provides life skills for emergency physician Teddy VanErp '86

It's a family affair for the VanErps. Teddy VanErp '86 and three siblings graduated from the University of Minnesota, Morris: Tom '89, Todd '92, and Tamara '96. But he had a second family in place just in case three siblings weren't enough: the 1986 football team.

"The '86 team was special," shares VanErp. "We were a bunch of under-sized, over-achieving boys mostly from small towns in Minnesota who really came together and were successful on and off the field. That team was kind of like a family."

VanErp started his college career at Fergus Falls Community College (FFCC). It was actually a bit of luck earlier in high school that started the chain reaction that brought him to UMM. During a high school football game, New York Mills, his hometown, against his current home, Battle Lake, VanErp garnered the attention of a FFCC recruiter. While he had no intention of continuing his education at a four-year college, a UMM recruiter saw him play during his second year at FFCC. He invited VanErp, as well as his fellow teammates, to UMM.

"Playing for the Cougars was the most enjoyable athletic experience of my life," states VanErp, "and I have many fond memories of that time, especially the 1986 season."

### Focus, clear thinking in high-stress situations

An emergency physician at Fairview Northland Medical Center in Princeton, VanErp states that he was well prepared for medical school thanks to UMM. He believes that being a Cougar gave him the necessary competitive edge. He learned to stay focus and perform in high-stress situations: "In the emergency department, you can't just throw in the towel when things get hectic. You have to clear your mind, dig deep, suck it up, and do your job, just like on the football field."

UMM was important in every aspect of VanErp's life, in preparing him for his future career and helping him grow on and off the field: "Getting an excellent education was obviously important, but all the experiences outside the classroom and on the field were as important in my development as a person."

VanErp, a longtime UMM athletics donor, states that his Cougar experience continues to have an impact on his life today. "I feel that the extra-curricular activities that I was involved in during my college years were just as important as the academics in making me who I am today. I want future Cougars to have that same opportunity for success that my teammates and I were blessed with."

—Natalie Johnson '11, Wichita, Kansas



# Homecoming 2008 Scrapbook



Biomass facility dedication



Tug of war



Wind turbine tours



Parade marshal Mike Miller



LaFave House alumni reception



Biomass facility tours



Art Club Exhibit



Pounce



International students parade entry



Disc golf tournament

Mark your  
calendars for  
Homecoming 2009  
October 5-11!



Studio Art Alumni Exhibition



*Profile* is a project of the Offices of External Relations and University Relations with funding support from the UMM Alumni Association.



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chancellor

Maddy Maxeiner '76  
associate vice chancellor for external relations  
and director of fund development

Janell Kolden '89  
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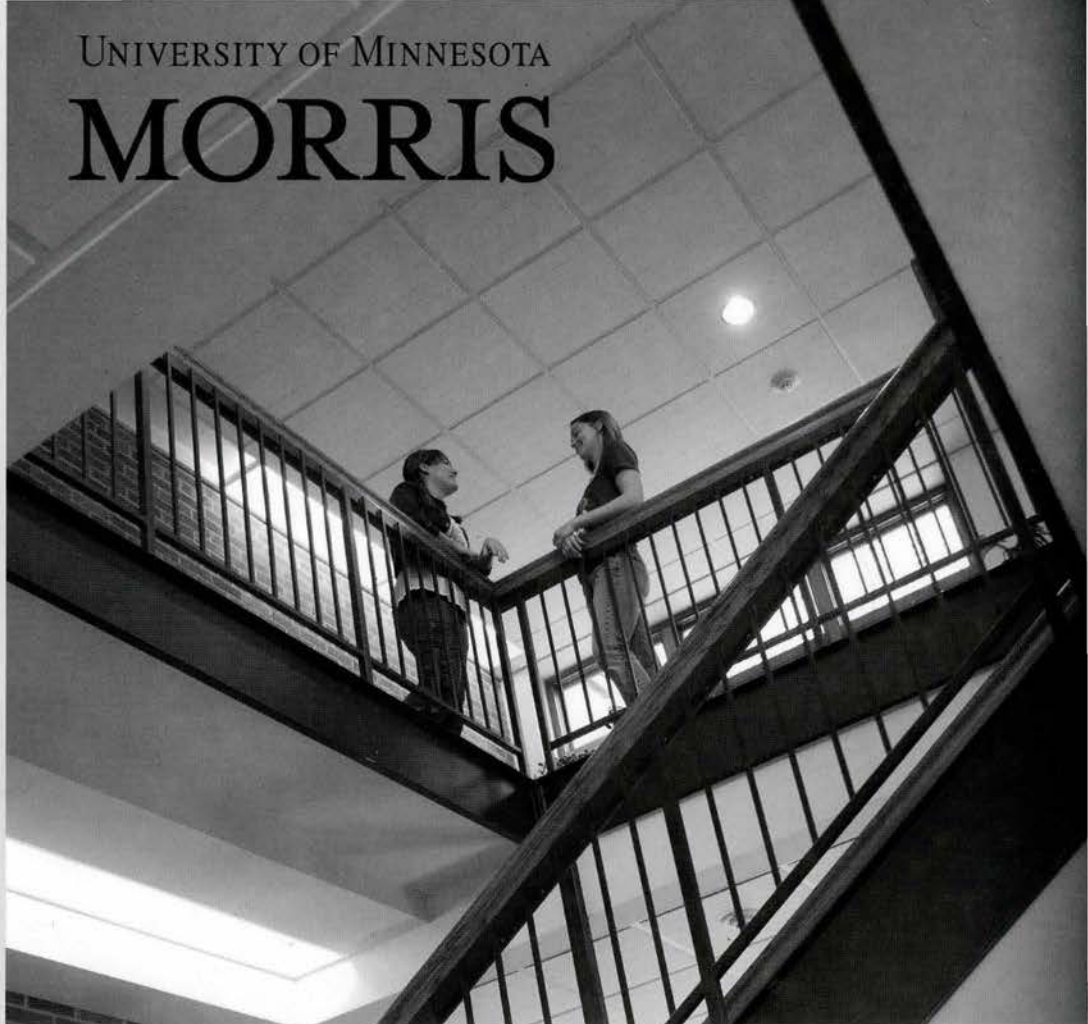
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# UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA MORRIS



Office of External Relations  
University of Minnesota, Morris  
312 Behmler Hall  
600 East Fourth Street  
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